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Romulus changing for the better, Lambert says

Ashley Lawrence
Staff Writer

Romulus Mayor Alan Lambert delivered the annual State of the City address Tuesday before community leaders and city officials.

"The current state of our city is good," said Lambert. "Better than many of our neighboring communities. The good news is that I pledge to continue to have a balanced budget, modest fund balances and no tax increases, layoffs or cuts in services."

Lambert then delivered the bad news to his audience.

"The bad news is that, like every other city in the State of Michigan, we face some challenges. The revenues we receive from the state are being cut yet again. State revenue sharing, our second largest revenue source will be reduced by approximately $118,000 this year. We have lost over half a million dollars in consecutive cuts at the state level in recent years."

> *Bringing quality new residential and commercial development to the city continues to be one of my priorities.*
>
> **Mayor Alan Lambert**

Despite the cuts, Lambert reassured the packed ballroom that Romulus would be fine.

"We will be able to weather this storm, as long as we maintain cost effective budgeting and operations."

Lambert said he believed that Romulus was changing, and changing for the better.

"We are building a better Romulus," he said. "Bringing quality new residential and commercial development to the city continues to be one of my priorities."

New residential development in the city has been moving full steam ahead in recent years, according to Lambert.

"Romulus is a great community and developers finally recognize our city as a desirable place for building new upscale, high quality homes," he said.

Residential development usually brings commercial development and Lambert said he believed that was the case in Romulus.

"There was once an old saying that you could not buy a pair of socks in Romulus, let alone a pair of shoes. That time is coming to an abrupt halt," said Lambert. "Commercial development already under way includes an 8,000 square foot Family Dollar department store on Wayne near Smith. You probably won't see Versace, but I know they will have Fruit of the Loom."

Lambert also said that the city is currently working with a major mall developer to con-

See **State of the city** page 3

City officials, community leaders and Romulus residents made the 1.3 mile walk from Romulus Elementary School to Romulus High School Monday to celebrate and remember the life of Dr. Martin Luther King Jr.

Romulus community honors legacy of Martin Luther King Jr.

Ashley Lawrence
Staff Writer

"I have a dream that my four children will one day live in a nation where they will not be judged by the color of their skin, but by the content of their character. I have a dream today."

A man who gave the ultimate sacrifice for the civil rights movement, his life, spoke those timeless words in 1963. On Monday, the Romulus community remembered and celebrated the life of Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. on what would have been his 75th birthday.

Romulus residents, church leaders and city officials walked from Romulus Middle School to Romulus High School to begin the celebration and commemorate the legacy of Dr. King.

"It is important to keep his spirit alive in our youth today," said Gina Wilson, a member of the Pentecostal Missionary Baptist Church in Romulus who brought her goddaughter and son to the event. "A day like today exposes kids to black history facts and helps to understand their history and the people who fought for their freedom."

After the 1.3 mile walk, attendees failed into the Romulus High School auditorium for a presentation on the life of Dr. King hosted by the Rev. Arthur C. Willis, pastor of the Pentecostal Missionary Baptist Church.

"We are doing this to keep King's dream alive," said Willis. "We want this to be a humanity thing, not a black and white thing. I can see that what Dr. King dreamt of is coming to pass by the participation in this service today. By all of these people coming out for this remembrance, it shows that his dream and ideals are thriving today."

More than 350 Romulus residents attended the event, as did many community leaders and city officials.

Sen. Ray Basham (D-Taylor) spoke to the audience about his memories of the early 60s, the height of the civil rights movement in the south.

Basham said he remembered the year 1962, especially well. He was 17 years old and entering the United States Air Force and had never been exposed to blacks in his schools. He was leaving for the Air Force at the greyhound bus station in Virginia when he said he got thirsty.

"I went to the drinking fountain and found that there were two," he said. "One read 'Whites Only' and the other read 'Blacks Only'. You kids have to understand that it wasn't that long ago in this country when that was the way it was. King preached a message of non-violence. This is what propelled him into a national image. If you don't stand for something, you'll fall for anything."

Judge David Parrott of the 34th District Court also spoke on

See **Celebration,** page 3

Ash wood available to local residents

Ashley Lawrence
Staff Writer

The phone keeps ringing at the Romulus Department of Public Works (DPW) and the answer is usually the same: "You have to wait your turn."

Residents have been phoning seeking firewood from the ash trees being cut down by DPW workers due to the infestation of the Emerald Ash Borer.

"Everybody knows that these ash wood trees are being cut down throughout the city," said Carl Brooks, Romulus DPW director. "So, people automatically think they can get some of it."

The wood from trees being cut down is available only by geographical location in the city, said Brooks.

All Romulus residents may call the DPW to request wood, but that doesn't mean they will receive it anytime soon, Brooks said.

"First of all, the ash wood that is being cut in any particular part of the city will be given to residents who reside there," said Brooks. "If you live on the south side of the city and we are cutting down trees on the north side, we are not able to truck that wood over."

Another concern with the ash wood is the way it will be delivered. Brooks said the DPW would cut the wood into 4 to 6 foot logs.

"Residents will be responsible for cutting the logs into the correct size for a fireplace."

All together the city will go into seven or eight subdivisions to cut the trees. Currently the DPW is cutting wood on the north side of the city. So, any residents living in that area are asked to contact the DPW for ash wood, said Brooks.

Former director named to planning commission

Ashley Lawrence
Staff Writer

Romulus residents will be seeing an old face on the planning commission beginning this week after the city council unanimously approved the appointment of David Paul to the vacant seat left by Phil Renke.

"I am very excited to again serve the residents of Romulus," said Paul. "It is something that I have really missed."

Paul served as the Romulus Department of Public Works (DPW) director for more than 20

David Paul

years until his retirement last year. He also served on the board of

See **Commission,** page 3

Stepping out

Annual dinner dance planned to benefit women's shelter

Meghan Chatham
Staff Writer

How often do area residents get a chance to see Cher and Madonna, enjoy casino games and help a worthwhile cause at the same time?

The upcoming 14th Annual Charity Dance benefiting First Step, which provides shelter for battered spouses and children throughout western Wayne County, offers just that, according to coordinator Brian Duggan.

While Cher and Madonna may only be celebrity impersonators, the opportunity for a great time is genuine, Duggan said.

The event will take place from 7:30 p.m. until 1:30 a.m. Friday, Feb. 6 at Burton Manor in Livonia. Burton Manor is located at 27777 Schoolcraft Road, south of I-96 and ¾ of a mile east of Middlebelt Road.

"It's a worthwhile project," said Duggan. "Last year we donated about $35,000 after expenses."

The dance will offer guests the opportunity to enjoy live music provided by Steve King & The Dittilies. The band will play a variety of music, from Top 40 to country.

"The dance floor is always full," said Duggan.

For those who don't feel like dancing, a casino room will be open from 7:30 until midnight. Games will include blackjack, roulette, and a big wheel. According to Duggan, there will also be slot car racing for those who want a flashback to their childhood.

> *It's a worthwhile project. Last year we donated about $35,000 after expenses.*
>
> **Brian Duggan**

In addition, there will also be special guest appearances by celebrity impersonators of Cher and Madonna. A variety of door and raffle prizes are available, including dinner passes and overnight stays at local hotels.

"It's a night of fun," said Duggan.

Hors d'oeuvres will be served until 9 p.m. followed by pizza later in the evening. The event will also include a cash bar.

The dance is open to everyone 21 and older, and casually elegant attire is expected. Tickets are $30, and they must be purchased in advance. No tickets will be available at the door. Duggan recommends purchasing tickets before Feb. 3 because he said that the event generally sells out.

Corporate sponsor opportunities are available on five levels, ranging from the $275 Silver Sponsorship- which offers the donor 10 tickets to the dance, a bottle of champagne on the table, a table sign recognizing the company as a sponsor, and company recognition in the program- to the $10,000 Emerald Sponsor, which offers personalized benefits to suit the individual company. Seating at the dance is arranged by level of sponsorship as the registration forms are received.

According to Judy Ellis, executive director of First Step, the event has grown from 300 people in the first year to about 2,000 guests last year. It provides the organization with much needed funding.

"The funds that are raised go directly to families experiencing domestic or sexual violence," said Ellis. "Efforts like this help us continue to do our work." She added that First Step assists about 7,000 people per year.

For tickets or more information on the dance, contact Brian Duggan via email at acrbrian@provide.net , by fax at (734) 762-7988, or by phone at (734) 591-1900 during the daytime or (734) 422-4333 in the evening.

First Step is currently seeking volunteers ages 18 and older to help in a variety of ways. For example, volunteer help is used to assist with support groups, work the 24 hour help-line, take part in the On-call Assault Response Team, provide services and support to families living in the emergency shelter, and organize family events and field trips. First Step will begin volunteer training later this month. For more information, call Shareia Carter at (734) 416-1111, ext. 221.

Wine tasting and silent auction to support Northville Dog Park

The Northville Dog Park Committee is hoping a little wine and some goodwill will make the grass at their temporary park a little greener.

The committee is hosting a wine tasting and silent auction fundriaser next month to generate some funds for ongoing maintenance at the park, which is located off Wing Street, next to the Northville Senior Center.

The event will take place from 6:30 –9 p.m. on Thursday, Feb. 12 at Genitti's Hole In the Wall, according to Fred Shadko, a member of the Dog Park Committee.

"I think it's going to be a great time," he said.

Admission is $22.50 per person or $45 per couple. Reservations can be secured by calling or visiting the Northville Parks and Recreation Department at Hillside Middle School, (248) 349-0203.

Shadko said there would be a variety of things up for auction, such as a year of pet care at a local pet salon and many more.

"It's not all pet-related," he said.

The funds would go to help pay for the ongoing operation of the park. The heavy use there has eroded most of the grass in the temporary park, according to Shadko.

"It's going to be a mud bowl in the spring," he said.

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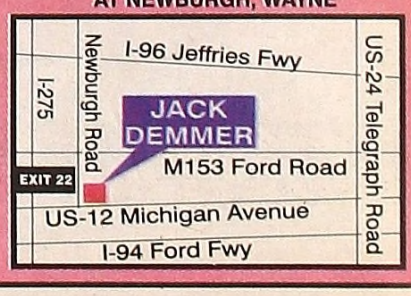

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The former 34th District Court located on Eureka Road in the center of Romulus began as a schoolhouse.

District court celebrates 35 years of serving community

Ashley Lawrence
Staff Writer

There have been a lot of changes at the 34th District Court in Romulus during the past three decades.

And when the 35th anniversary of the court is celebrated with an open house from 4 until 7 p.m. today, officials will celebrate the past as they look toward the future.

Judge Brian Oakley discovered front-page newspaper articles from *The Romulus Roman* when he was looking through the court archives. Those stories about the opening sparked the idea for the community open house, Oakley said.

"The open house celebration will be a great opportunity for the community to visit the building, look at some neat old pictures and chat with the judges and staff," said Oakley. "We are looking forward to it."

Oakley said that the article marking the opening of the courthouse started him thinking about the history of the court, remembering it as a "court on wheels" located on Eureka Road.

Oakley said that the court history is quite interesting.

When the district court was formed in 1968, the law said it had to be in the venue with the largest population, which was Romulus. The only spot available for the court was located in the old Hale Elementary School on Eureka Road.

Before the court could move in, extensive remodeling had to take place and during the construction phase court took up temporary quarters in Van Buren Township Hall.

At one end of the township boardroom was the court bench, while the corridors of the building were used as office space housing a district court, court recorder, six court clerks and a court officer. The court finally moved into the Eureka facility on July 7, 1969.

> *"The district court is the only court most people will have contact with and we hope people will avail themselves of this oppportunity to visit the court.*
>
> ***Judge Tina Brooks Green***

The first elected judge was Francis D. Ross, who resigned after a mere month in office. Richard D. Dunn was appointed interim judge until then Michigan Gov. William Milliken appointed Judge James B. Stone to fill the post.

By the spring of 1971, the caseload of the 34th District Court increased and a second judicial seat was added. Henry Zaborowski was elected to the seat in 1974 joining Stone.

Caseloads continued to increase at the court and talks began between the cities of Belleville and Romulus and the townships of Huron, Sumpter and Van Buren to provide a permanent court building to meet the growth needs of the court.

In 1976, the Local Public Works Capital Development and investment Act contained funds for the construction of municipal buildings. The City of Romulus made an application for a construction grant with support from the other four venues. The grant was approved for 100 percent federal funding in the building of a new courthouse.

The court moved into the current site on Wayne Road in 1978 and an expansion of that facility took place in 1991, just after a new judge, Felix Rogalle, was elected in 1990.

Stone served as a 34th District Court Judge until his retirement in 1989. When Stone retired, William Szlinis was appointed by then Michigan Gov. James Blanchard. Szlinis was elected to his first full term in 1990 and was then re-elected in 1996.

Judge Tina Brooks Green defeated Rogalle in 1994, becoming the first woman to serve on the bench at the 34th District Court.

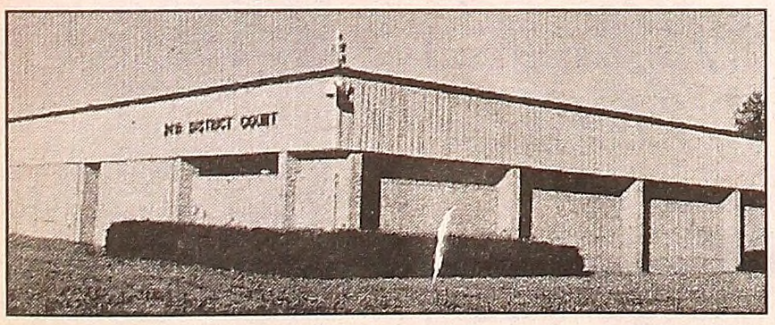
After serving four terms, Zaborowski retired in 1998 and the populace chose Oakley to fill the seat.

In 2002, Szlinis retired and David Parrott was elected to his current seat.

Green, the current chief judge at the court is also looking forward to the open house, because she said she believes it gives residents a unique insight to the courthouse.

"The district court is the only court most people will have contact with and we hope people will avail themselves of this opportunity to visit the court," said Green. "It will give a new understanding and appreciation for our judicial system and our country."

In conjunction with the inaugural anniversary, the court also offered an amnesty program that began on Jan. 5 and ends today. The program allowed those with outstanding cases at the court to pay fines and costs without penalty during this time.



The 34th District Court as it appears today at the Wayne Road location.

Commission

FROM PAGE 1

appeals, as well as the planning commission for a short time.

Serving citizens of Romulus became so much a part of Paul's life that he said he felt out of touch with the community after his retirement.

"I missed being on top of things in Romulus," he said. "I worked with the city for so many years that once I retired I felt like I was out of the loop."

Paul said he is optimistic about what he can bring to the commission.

'I know a lot about the history of Romulus since I have lived and worked here since 1963," said Paul. "Because I also did the administration functions for the planning commission as the building director, I know the city ordinances in the city. I also know many of the projects that have come and gone over the years."

Paul said he believes that a lot is happening in Romulus right now and he is looking forward to what the future may bring to the city.

"If the racetrack and casino end up in Romulus, they will bring a lot of spin-off development to the city," he said. "There is also a lot of housing development happening right now, because we are a working class community with the land the developers are looking for. This is a great community to live in."

State of the city

FROM PAGE 1

struct a 1.2 million square foot retail mall near Vining and I-94.

"We would like to see ground breaking this year or early next year," he said. "Now, comes the Versace."

The proposed casino and racetrack developments will also bring thousands of new jobs to the city, as well as millions of dollars of development, said Lambert.

Lambert said he was also proud of the forward progress city departments have made during the last year including the 24-hour, seven-days-a-week, full-time fire fighters. However, more may be in store for the fire department in the coming months.

"I am pleased to announce our plans for the development and construction of a 20,000 square foot fire department headquarters to be located near Vining and Ecorse," said Lambert. "This new facility will be built on property donated to the city by Lloyd Ecclestone, the owner of the Metro World development and paid for using TIFA (Tax Increment Financing Authority) funding, not taxpayer dollars."

Lambert also announced new plans for the current recreation department/senior center building.

"We intend to relocate the recreation department and commence renovation of the current building for our senior citizens center, which will allow us to expand our senior services," said Lambert.

"We still need to build a new recreation center and let me just say that I remain committed to doing just that when the economy gets better."

Celebration

FROM PAGE 1

the meaning of Dr. King's message.

"I believe in the ideals of Dr. King," said Parrott. "The concept of justice is a very important ideal that King held. My tribute to Dr. King is my commitment to justice. This day is very important; it is not just another day off. We are honoring a great man and recognizing what he did and what his message was and still is today."

The event also included songs played by the Romulus High School Symphonic Band and sung by the Community Choir under the direction of Ellen Bragg, speeches by Trevor Coleman, a representative of Gov. Jennifer Granholm's office and the Rev. Harmon McBurrows, pastor of Community Baptist Church, as well as a dance performance by Hanya Ombima, a senior at Romulus High School and a poetry reading by Casey Stevenson, a junior at Romulus High School.

"Martin Luther King, Jr. is one of the most prominent black leaders of our time," said Wilson. "We need to teach our kids more than just his name. We need to teach them what he stood for and what he did to better our society. That is what today is all about."

Gina Wilson, a member of the Pentecostal Missionary Baptist Church in Romulus, said she believed that it was important to bring her goddaughter, Amaya Quaker, to the walk and remembrance of Dr. Martin Luther King, so she can learn from an early age the role he played in the civil rights movement and the importance of his legacy.

OBITUARIES

JOHNSON, Emil Richard

Emil "Dick" Richard Johnson, 75, a 20 year resident of Belleville, died Jan. 11.

Among his survivors is his companion, Louise Gunaca; his children, Richard E. Johnson of Lapeer, Robert (Gayle) Johnson of Howell and Susan (James) Pounds of Laurel, MS; 10 grandchildren, and two great-grandsons.

Mr. Johnson served in the Merchant Marines and the Coast Guard Auxiliary.

A memorial service was at the David C. Brown Funeral Home with the Rev. John N. Grenfell III officiating.

BOYER, Robert Blaine

Robert Blaine Boyer, 68, of Belleville, formerly of Romulus, died Jan. 12.

Among his survivors are his wife of more than 33 years, Elizabeth Ann (Holt) Boyer; children, Michael, (Debbie) Boyer of Petersburg, Barbara (David) Jean of Westland, Andrea Jones of New Port Richie, FL, Kyle (Debi) Haveraneck of Trenton, Gregory (Kathy) Boyer and Cyndy (Mark) Jones, both of Belleville and Mary (John) Parks of Gilbert, AZ; sisters, Betty (Paul) Capehart of Wayne and Patricia (Bob) Oaks of Tennessee; sister-in-law Barbara Boyer of Tucson, AZ; several nieces and nephews, and grandchildren, Brent Jones, Krystal Guinn, Trevor Jones, Justin Boyer, Chelsea Suliman, Joshua Guinn, Amanda Boyer, Joshua Haveraneck, Zachary Haveraneck, Robert Parks and Elizabeth Suliman.

Mr. Boyer was retired from Ford Motor Co. in Rawsonville. He was a member of the Lion's Club and the U.A.W.

Mr. Boyer served in the U.S. Air Force during the Korean Conflict.

Funeral services were at the David C. Brown Funeral Home with Father Henry W. Roodbeen officiating.

WYATT, Joseph J. Sr.

Joseph J. Wyatt, Sr, 62, of Belleville, died Jan. 18.

Among his survivors is his wife of more than 35 years, Linda R. (Ferrara) Wyatt; sons, Joseph J. (Heather) Wyatt, Jr. of Howell and James (Michelle) Wyatt of Jackson; brothers, Jerry (Carole) Wyatt of Milford, Gary Wyatt of Redford and Jack Wyatt of Romulus, and four grandchildren.

Mr. Wyatt was a former member of the Lake Community Church of the Nazarene.

Funeral services were at the David C. Brown Funeral Home with the Rev. Dan Black officiating.

Interment was at Hillside Cemetery in Belleville.

GOBLE, Myrtle L.

Myrtle L. Goble, 97, of Belleville, died Jan. 14.

Among her survivors are her daughters, Eleanore Hendrickson of Belleville and Dolores (Warren) Hale of Milan; four grandchildren; 12 great-grandchildren, and 16 great-great-grandchildren. Mrs. Goble was a member of the Order of the Eastern Star, Rebeccas, James Goble Relief Corps and September Days. She was also a member of the First Methodist Church of Belleville.

Funeral services were at the David C. Brown Funeral Home with the Rev. John N. Grenfell III officiating.

Interment was at Rosedale Memorial Park Cemetery.

GASILO, Myrtle M.

Myrtle M. Gasilo, 93, of Belleville, died Jan. 16.

Among her survivors are her children, Richard Santure of Saline, Kenneth Santure of Florida and Shirley Roberts of Monroe; 17 grandchildren; 28 great-grandchildren, and 12 great-great-grand children.

Mrs. Gasilo was a member of St. Anthony's Catholic Church and a member of the Nurses Service Organization and the Pope John Paul II Cultural Center and the Square Dance Club.

Funeral services were at the David C. Brown Funeral Home with Father Thomas H. Cusick officiating.

Interment was at Michigan Memorial Park in Flat Rock.

MYERS, Mary

Mary J. Myers, 87, of Brighton, formerly of Romulus, died Jan. 17.

Mrs. Myers and her husband, Carl W. Myers who preceded her in death,, operated a Romulus farm for more than 30 years.

Among her survivors are her children, Marilyn Hall of Grand Blanc and Carol (Gene) Nault of Scottsdale, AZ; a son, Bob Myers of Brighton; grandchildren, Terrilyn (John) Daly, Robert M. Hall and Michael and David Myers; a foster grandchild, Pamela Fann; several nieces and nephews, and a brother, Robert Klaassen of Florida.

Funeral services were at the Keehn Funeral Home in Brighton with the Rev. David J. Mihocko officiating.

YOUNG, Corisa

Corisa J. Young, 32, of Westland died Dec. 3.

Among her survivors are her mother, Leila; daughters, Nicole and Nitisha; two sisters, two brothers, five half-siblings and a Goddaughter, Michelle.

Funeral services were at the Penn Funeral Home.

Interment was at Westlawn Cemetery.

LUCAS, Thomas J.

Thomas J. Lucas, 75, of Canton Township, died Dec. 2.

Among his survivors are his sister, Alice; a daughter, Cynthia; sons, Mark and Michael; eight grandchildren, and seven great-grandchildren.

Funeral services were at Mt. Olive Baptist Church with the Rev. James Thompson officiating.

Arrangements were entrusted to the Penn Funeral Home in Inkster.

KINNIEBREW, Ruth A.

Ruth A. Kinniebrew, 78, of Detroit, died Dec. 8.

Among her survivors are her daughter, Joyce; grandchildren, Stephen and Royce, and two great-grandchildren.

Funeral services were at the Tree of Life Baptist Church.

Interment was at Gethsemane Cemetery in Detroit.

Funeral arrangements were entrusted to the Penn Funeral Home in Inkster.

MCGRIER, Andrea D.

Andrea D. McGrier, 50, of Westland, died Dec. 8.

Among her survivors are her son, David; three sisters, two brothers, and her parents, David and Reaba McGrier.

Ms. McGrier was active in Inkster politics and with Junior Achievement and was a tutor and mentor for young people.

Funeral services were at the First Missionary Baptist Church.

Interment was at Metropolitan Memorial Park in Belleville.

Arrangements were entrusted to the Penn Funeral Home in Inkster.

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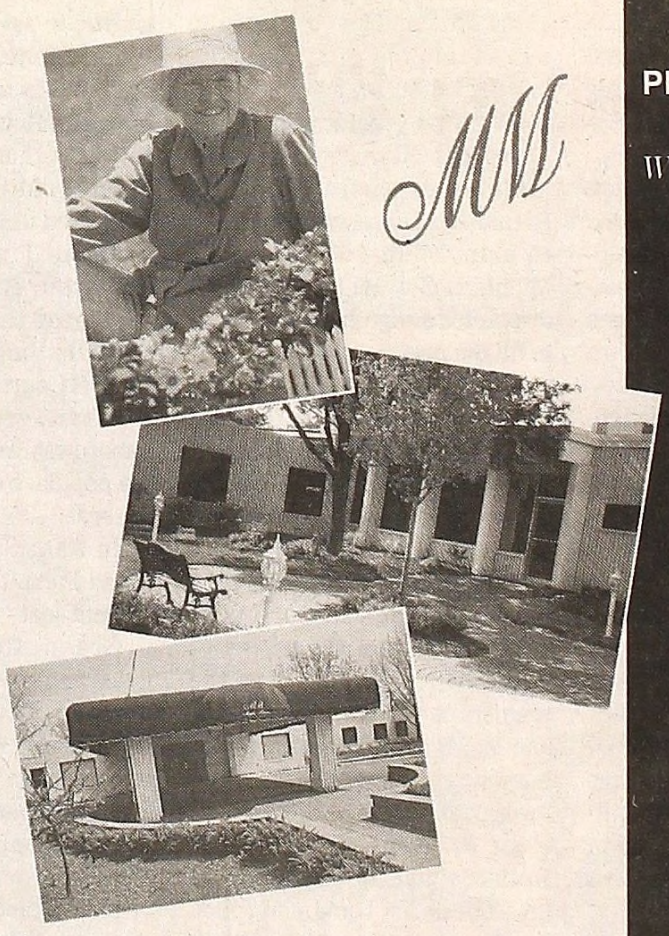

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CHARTER TOWNSHIP OF VAN BUREN
PLANNING COMMISSION
NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING

Notice is hereby given that the Van Buren Township Planning Commission will hold a public hearing in the Board of Trustees Room, 46425 Tyler, Van Buren Township, MI 48111, on Wednesday January 28, 2004 to consider the following:

An Ordinance to amend Zoning Ordinance 6-2-92 as amended of the Charter Township of Van Buren to amend the following:

ARTICLE IV GENERAL PROVISIONS, SECTION 4.14 ACCESSORY STRUCTURES AND USES.

A complete text of the proposed amendment will be available for review at the Township Department of Developmental Services Office. Written comments will be accepted at the Department of Developmental Services until 5:00 p.m. on the hearing date.

In spirit of compliance with the American with Disabilities Act, individuals with disability should fee free to contact the Department of Developmental Services at least 72 hours in advance of the meeting, if requesting accommodations.

Publish: January 8, 2004
January 22, 2004

Opinion

Schools earn top grades

The Northville Public School Board picked the right time of the year to hear the results of their fourth community survey.

It came last week, during the middle of national School Board Recognition Month, when they had already received plenty of accolades from the citizenry as well as local and state officials.

The survey, then, was the icing on the cake.

It quantified everything a school board member should want to hear: parents thought their students were safe and well-educated, the teachers were caring and well-qualified, the district managed its money well. The overwhelmingly positive feedback was even more legitimized because it came from a random sample of registered voters, some of whom had never had children in the district schools.

The survey even told school board members that – among respondents, at least – there was a willingness to support another bond issue. That is the ultimate sign of confidence, that taxpayers are trusting enough in their school officials to allocate more money for them to handle future growth.

Granted, bond issues are always iffy propositions. Nobody likes to pay more taxes. Even though the survey is an encouraging sign for Northville school officials, it's still a far cry from getting a bond issue out and approved by voters.

Most likely, though, they will have to try. The population growth hasn't stopped in western Wayne County, and Northville is no different. Schools are still crowded and others need maintenance. It will prove an interesting year for officials there and in Plymouth-Canton, who are also investigating the possibility of a bond issue.

Members of the school board have a tricky job, and not many people realize it. They have to keep residents of more than one jurisdiction happy as they plan for the betterment of our most valuable resource – our children. Often these tax discussions coincide or conflict with other requests or desires, like the Headlee rollback attempt that failed in the City of Plymouth last year, or the potential parks and recreation millage in the Northvilles. Coupled with the state of the economy and the mandated requirement to only look five years into the future when planning bond issues, it becomes a very difficult decision.

Jim Ryan, superintendent of the Plymouth-Canton Community Schools, said that the new year would bring some interesting decisions.

Indeed, and difficult ones, too.

But those are discussions for another day, for now, the members of the school board should be comfortable in the knowledge of a job well done.

Tell him what you think

There is a recurring theme to the ongoing effort to revitalize the downtown district in the City of Wayne.

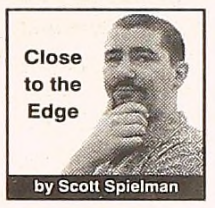
Just when things start to gain some momentum, something happens that threatens to steer the effort off course.

In recent years it was the economic downturn that put the city in a tight budget situation. Even through that, though, the Downtown Development Authority (DDA) district remained healthy, grants were pursued and obtained, and work continued. Then, with new residential projects headed toward the downtown and the announcement that Ford Motor Co. would invest $410 million in the city, it looked like it would finally be relatively smooth sailing.

Then came the announcement from Farmer Jack that they would close the store on Michigan Avenue and convert it into a Food Basics store, a move officials from the company called a fresh approach to

See **Store,** page 6

Another quest unfilled, (for now)



I was in no condition to undertake a quest Sunday afternoon.

I was still queasy from a bout with bad sushi on Friday night, a little light-headed, weak as a kitten.

But, there was plenty of snow on the ground and I had one excited, pent- up – and sledless – little boy.

Sure, I probably would have been better served by an afternoon on the couch, watching old movies or football, sipping Canada Dry daintily from a scratched glass while I nibbled on stale saltines and pondered the meaning of my gastrically-induced fever dreams from the night before.

But hey, dads are supposed to rise to the call, right? Can't have a kid without a sled, not with a great sledding hill only blocks away. Besides, how long could it take?

Our first stop didn't stem our enthusiasm. We went to Toys R Us in Westland, and found only a few broken plastic sleds along with a couple of plain, black plastic toboggans.

Hmm. Not exactly what we wanted. We pressed on.

Then we hit Target, and then Sears in the mall. The salesperson there gave us a blank look: as if we suggested Sears sold cadavers, rather than something as simple as a plastic sled.

What gives?

After each stop, Henry would hang his head.

"Now I guess we'll never get a sled," he said, through pouting lips.

"No problem, buddy," was my reply as I rubbed his head. "They're out there and we're going to find them. We just have to make a few more stops."

The optimism faded from my voice at that prospect and Henry noticed – either that or he realized that the cart I pushed supported me as much as him.

After that we decided to go to the one place where they would surely have what we wanted: Wal-Mart. After all, Wal-Mart has everything, right?

The decision made, I still couldn't repress a shudder. Not a fan of any type of traffic congestion, I try to avoid the area of Ford and Lotz roads in Canton Township, where the Sam's Club and Wal-Mart are located. It's bad enough on a week day, but on a Sunday? I could only imagine the long lines that waited me, the bumps from other shopping carts that would threaten to lay me out.

But, the sled was the important thing. A couple of hours had gone by already, and daylight was fading.

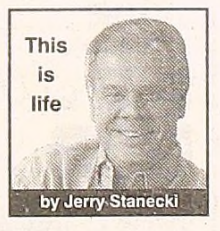
Henry helped clear the way. He cried out in a way only a cute 3-year-old can and get away with: "Move out of the way! We're trying to find a sled!"

In the end we were rebuffed there, too, as well as at Meijer's down the road. If we were looking for inflatable pools or beach toys, well, we would have hit the mother lode anywhere we stopped.

I guess the lesson here is that you've got to plan ahead, even when you want to have a fun afternoon on the sled hill with your youngsters. Wait for the moment to arrive, and it will be too late.

But then again, we could always slide down the hill in the inflatable pool...

Now is time for reality check



The phone rang before 9 a.m.

"Good morning, "I said.

Nothing for a few seconds, then a recorded announcement: "The computer is busy, will you please hold?" I slammed down the phone thinking: "Good God, almighty. We are dangerously close to spinning out of control as a society."

What idiot thought that a human with good sense—any sense—would sit there, be insulted by a computer call, and then hold on because the computer is busy?

The timing of that call was interesting because I'd just walked outside and noticed at all the flowers. White, purple, yellow, and crimson mums, all in full and glorious bloom. I thought of all the work I'd done planting them, and how, I too, get caught up in the extreme pace of today and forget to take a few minutes to be still, to look, to appreciate and be grateful for the beauty.

We are moving way too fast. Multi-tasking has become something to brag about. Actors on television talk faster so more time can be used for commercials. And because of greed, we've deceived each other in a most terrible way.

It's not only that the mergers of giant companies steal our freedom of choice; it's the greed that is destroying the human spirit.

I'm talking about the ruthless way business deceptively demands more and pushes good people into doing destructive things to each other.

Here's just one example. You are hired to do a job. In our society it's always meant 40 hours per week. You're paid a salary, say $1,000 a week to do that job. Things are fine, for a while, then, like a thief in the night, the deception sneaks in.

Little by little your boss gives you more work. Soon you're working 45-50 hours a week for the same pay. That happens because the company has eliminated other jobs.

You begin to feel useless; it's affecting your spirit. Your feeling is enforced with subtle hints from the boss that, you should be able to handle it. And, for a lot of us, that pushes the guilt and shame button that says, "What's wrong with me?"

See **Reality,** page 6

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Store

FROM PAGE 5

grocery retail, a sort of grocery warehouse with fewer products, less service and lower prices.

This obstacle may be far more difficult to circumvent.

The word from the Farmer Jack people was that shoppers at Food Basics could save as much as 30 percent on food items, and pick up a few towels and dollar store-type items at the same time. They said that, once people saw the new store and shopped there, they would love it.

Well, pardon us if we disagree.

Frankly, we don't see the opportunity here. Citizens in Wayne already have a discount food store to choose from. They need something that will raise the bar, not lower it. The location of the store, on Michigan Avenue and Elizabeth Street, should be a prime spot for virtually any other type of development.

City officials have long tried to get the company to invest money into the store. And let's face it: in the current condition, it's hardly inviting. Transforming it into a sort of dollar store for groceries is a slap in the face to the city and the residents.

There may be some that may welcome that type of store over another vacant building, but at least vacant buildings have some potential. They can be bought, torn down, redeveloped, upgraded. It's unlikely that any of these things will happen if the Food Basics concept takes place. The company will invest a minimal amount of money in new signage, maybe even put a few coats of paint on the façade, and then forget about the city once again.

The sad part is that there may be very little our city officials can do to stop the transformation. The zoning is the same, the use allowed. Any renovations that cost more than $5,000 will require city site plan approval, but in this case that will be a matter of dealing with the aesthetics, which are governed by ordinances.

That doesn't mean, though, that residents have to meekly accept the change, if they don't want to. They can boycott the store, work for something better. There is someone who may or may not be interested in what we have to say. His name is Mike Carter, president of Farmer Jack. He can be reached at: 18718 Borman Ave. Detroit, MI (313)270-1212.

Let him know what you think.

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Racially Non-discriminatory Policy as to Students

The Plymouth-Canton Chinese Learning Center admits students of any race, color, national and ethnic origin to all the rights, privileges, programs and activities generally accorded or made available to students at the Center. It does not discriminate on the basis of race, color, national and ethnic origin in administration of its educational policies, admissions policies, scholarship and loan programs, and cultural and other school-administered programs.

PCCLC teaches Chinese language and culture classes Friday Evenings at West Middle School in Plymouth.
PCCLC is a non-profit organization. Contact us at:
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Or e-mail to: fangliu579@yahoo.com

Reality

FROM PAGE 5

The fear of losing your job increases, stress builds, your anxiety rises, you're feeling worth less than others.

Business, especially the corporate world, is slowly destroying a lot of people, pushing, using, deceiving them until burn out, until they become dependent on artificial ways to ease the fear, pain, shame and guilt.

No wonder we're a fat society. No wonder addiction affects millions of Americans and destroys millions of American families.

It's a terrible thing we do to each other. We are, more and more, destroying the human spirit by treating people as disposable. Your feelings, your well-being, no longer seem to matter much in our throw away society.

A compelling factor in addiction is the powerful craving for fast relief from feeling badly. You're stressed; you immediately reach for what eases the emotional pain, what comforts you: cigarettes, food, alcohol, sex, prescription anti-anxiety drugs. Your mind says you'll feel better soon, and before you know it you find yourself fatter, less healthy, addicted to drugs, pills, alcohol. You begin to feel hopelessness and the anxiety and stress increases.

It's only when the pain pacifiers stop working that we seek another way. Pain motivates change. For it's either change, or, for too many of us, staying miserably trapped. For others it's suicide. Time for a reality check. If you're not happy, if you don't feel good about you—honestly good—maybe it's time to reach out for help.

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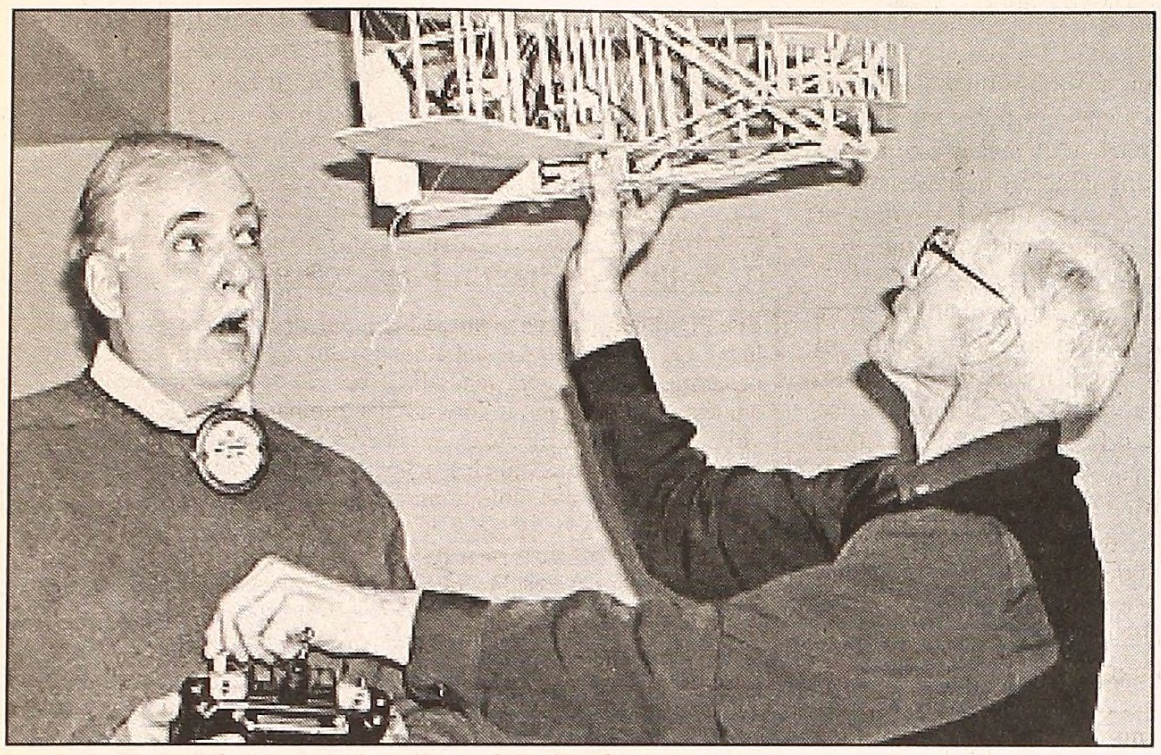
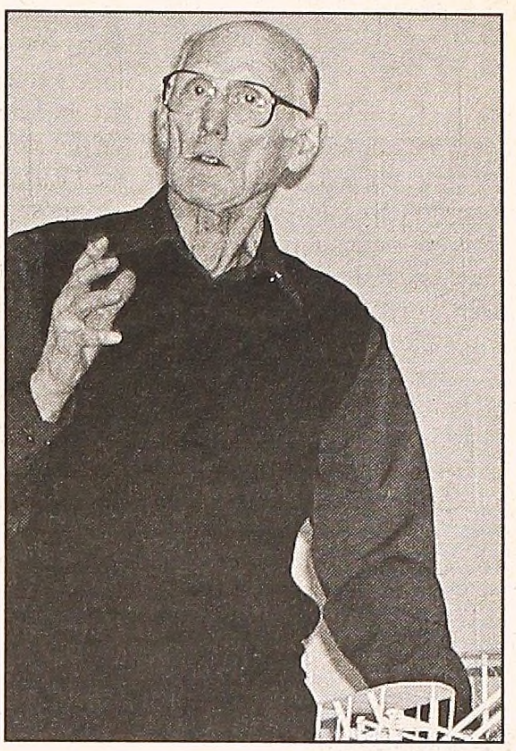


Flying lessons

Bill Brown of Canton Township demonstrates a remote control model of the Wright brothers' Kitty Hawk with the assistance of Rotary Past District Governor Ed Shultz, far left, during the Plymouth Noon Rotary Club meeting recently. Brown, a pilot, discussed the history of flight and demonstrated various aircraft models. He ended his presentation with the flight of a small wind-up plane around the gathering at the Plymouth Cultural Center.



Northville schools receive high marks from community

Meghan Chatham
Staff Writer

Members of the Northville Public Schools Board of Education received good news last week when they learned of the overwhelmingly positive results of the 2004 Community Survey Report.

According to Leonard Rezmierski, superintendent of schools, the report is designed to look at both the attitudes of the community toward the schools and at how these views compare with past studies. The survey has been issued once every other year for eight years, and the results are used to help guide district decision-making.

"We have a baseline of similar questions eight years running, so we now have an established set of documents and data points to reference how well we've been doing in certain areas while we also...bring up new areas of concern about our situation within the school district," said Rezmierski.

> "To have 97 percent of parents say the quality of education is good to excellent is phenomenal.

Consultants randomly surveyed 378 registered voters within the community to compile the report. Of these people, 37 percent currently have children in Northville schools, 26 percent used to have children in local schools, and 33 percent have never had children in the Northville schools.

In terms of the quality of education provided by the district, 82 percent of all the people surveyed responded with rates of good or excellent. Among parents of students currently attending school in Northville, the rate rose to 97 percent.

"To have 97 percent of parents say the quality of education is good to excellent is phenomenal. These numbers are especially impressive when you consider that the parents in this community are pretty savvy consumers of education. They know what matters and they spend a great deal of time involved in the schools," said Joan Wadsworth, president of the Northville school board.

The survey also showed that 90 percent of residents feel children are safe in the schools most or some of the time, the two highest ratings. Of the amount remaining, 9 percent of respondents said they couldn't say or didn't know. All current district parents said they felt their children were safe most or some of the time.

Respondents also gave the district high marks for money management, communications and keeping the community informed of district activities, and the quality of the board of education and school administrators.

The teachers, however, are the primary strength of the district according to the survey respondents. Thirty seven percent of residents surveyed said that the "many caring, dedicated classroom teachers" are the greatest district asset. Rezmierski agreed, noting that it is the classroom teachers' day-to-day attention to students that determines the success of the schools.

When asked about district weaknesses, the survey found that while many respondents could not think of any potential improvements, others sought changes in specific policies or procedures and improvements in a variety of other areas.

When asked whether or not they would vote to support a bond helping to assist the schools financially, 64 percent agreed they would while only 24 percent of people said they would vote against the bond.

The survey also asked for ways to slash the budget if cuts were to become necessary. If the district does need to cut back, 10 percent of respondents suggested implementing a pay-to-play program while an additional 10 percent suggested cuts in athletics. Sixteen percent, the largest in the category, argued that the schools should not cut anything. At other points, reducing busing was also suggested as a potential money saver.

"We need to look carefully at responses concerning athletics and extra-curricular activities My take on it is that parents really value those options for kids, but feel...it may be appropriate for some of the support to come from families and thereby reduce the burden on the general fund

"We know that many families are willing and able to contribute, but we don't want to discourage kids from participating because of the fees. Also, we know athletics and extra-curricular activities offer kids an important opportunity to connect to their school," said Wadsworth.

See **Survey,** page 8

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SYNOPSIS JANUARY 15, 2004
REGULAR MEETING
CHARTER TOWNSHIP OF NORTHVILLE
BOARD OF TRUSTEES

DATE: Thursday, January 15, 2004
TIME: 7:30 p.m.
PLACE: 41600 W. Six Mile Road
CALL TO ORDER: The meeting was called to order by Supervisor Abbo at 7:38 p.m.
PRESENT: Mark Abbo, Supervisor, Sue Hillebrand, Clerk, Marv Gans, Trustee, Richard Henningsen, Treasurer, Shirley Klokkenga, Trustee, Brad Werner, Trustee Marjorie Banner, Trustee
PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE:

1. **Agendas:** Approve Consent & Regular Agenda - approved
2. **Appointments, Petitions, Resolutions & Announcements:**
   - **A.** Appoint Martha Nield to Northville Youth Assistance - approved
   - **B.** Re-appoint Marie Barr to Beautification - approved
   - **C.** Re-appoint Barbara O'Brien to Beautification - approved
   - **D.** Re-appoint Barbara Reichard to Beautification - approved
   - **E.** Re-appoint Marjorie Faessler to Beautification - approved
   - **F.** Re-appoint Lisa Anderson to Planning Commission - approved
   - **G.** Re-appoint Robert Nix to Planning Commission -approved
   - **H.** Appoint Brian Doren to Zoning Board of Appeals - approved
3. **Public Hearing:**

A. Public Hearing for R & D Enterprises District #4 - Public Hearing conducted
B. Public Hearing for R & D Enterprises Tax Abatement - Public Hearing conducted
C. Decision on tax abatement district - approved
D. Decision on tax abatement request & agreement - approved
E. Set Public Hearing for CDBG Budget for February 19, 2004 - approved

4. **Brief Public Comments & Questions:** None
5. **New Business:**
   - **A.** Municipal Building Project - Progress Payment #10 - approved
   - **B.** Municipal Building Project - Change Order #12 & #13 - approved
   - **C.** Quail Ridge SAD - approved
   - **D.** Abruzzi Farms - Utility Easement - approved
   - **E.** Moose Lodge - Utility Agreement - approved
   - **F.** Plymouth/Canton Schools tax collection - approved
   - **G.** Northville Public Schools tax collection - approved
   - **H.** Schoolcraft College tax collection - approved
   - **I.** RESA tax collection - approved
   - **J.** Patrol Vehicle Purchase - approved
   - **K.** Annual Wayne County Permits - approved
   - **L.** SEMCOG Dues - approved
   - **M.** Lateral File for Clerk's Office - approved
   - **N.** Constables - approved
   - **O.** Stonewater Subdivision No. 5 - Vacation of Easement - approved
   - **P.** Water and Sewer Truck Purchase - approved
6. **Unfinished Business:** None
7. **Ordinances:** None
8. **Bills Payable:** A. Bills payable in the amount of $2,063,618.63 - approved
9. **Board Communication:** Reports were given by the following: Mark Abbo, Sue Hillebrand, Richard Henningsen, Chip Snider, Marv Gans, Marjorie Banner, Shirley Klokkenga, Brad Werner
10. **Other Business that may properly be brought before the Board of Trustees:** None
11. **Adjournment** - 9:05 p.m.

Mark J. Abbo, Supervisor
Sue A. Hillebrand, CMC

Publish: January 22, 2004

Heavy duty

City spreads more than 5,400 tons of salt each year

Theresa Wherrett
Staff Writer

Just how much salt did the City of Westland spread on local roads last week to combat the icy 6-inch snowstorm?

Probably more than most people would think. Westland used 551.7 tons of salt last week, according to Kevin Buford, Westland Department of Public Service (DPS) superintendent. That's on top of the 80 tons of salt used earlier this month during the 4-inch snowstorm.

"We're probably about average so far this year for salt usage," said Buford. "We average about 5,460 tons of salt a year."

So how much is 5,460 tons? It's about 1,100 adult male elephants, about 6 percent of the weight of the Washington Monument, and – using an average weight of 150 pounds – the total weight of 72,800 people – almost enough for each man, woman and child in Westland.

But at a cost of $26 per ton and a proven effectiveness at melting ice, salt is still probably the best thing going, said DPS Director Tom Wilson. "We are aware of other methods to melt ice and snow, such as (liquid chemicals) calcium chloride and magnesium chloride," said Wilson. "But right now those methods are untested."

Calcium chloride, a water-soluble chemical compound, is applied prior to a snowstorm and works by inhibiting the bonding of ice and snow to the pavement, according to Dow Chemical Company, the world's largest producer of calcium chloride. Calcium chloride emits heat when dissolved in water and is effective to much lower temperatures than rock salt. Proponents of calcium chloride claim that the use of calcium chloride reduces road crew costs and plowing times. Wilson, however, has his reservations.

"Calcium chloride must be applied before a snowstorm to work," said Wilson. "Then if it doesn't snow, you've wasted time and money."

This year, the Michigan Department of Transportation is sponsoring pilot programs in several Michigan counties to test the effectiveness of liquid calcium chloride and magnesium chloride.

"I'll be interested see what happens in Oakland County," said Wilson. Wilson will attend a conference later this year in Kentucky to learn more about new de-icing possibilities.

In addition to salting Westland streets, DPS also had 15 snowplows out on the road last week.

"We plowed the entire City of Westland," said Buford. "That's 27 square miles."

According to Buford, there are 217 local and major roads that will be plowed for any snowfall 6 inches or greater. For snowfall less than 6 inches, only major streets will be plowed. Unlike neighboring cities where subdivisions must plow their own roads, all Westland streets (except for condominium areas) are city-owned and will be plowed by the city, Wilson said.

"We make sure that citizens can get home during rush hour," said Wilson. "We make sure the streets are plowed when they get up in the morning."

Wilson, who oversees a staff of about 20, also had some words of advice for Westland citizens. "Our salt trucks carry about 10 tons of salt apiece. Don't pull out in front of a salt truck. It's not safe."

Survey - Residents praise schools

FROM PAGE 7

Cutting athletics and extracurricular activities was a thorny issue because while some respondents suggested trimming these programs to save money, others included them as parts of the curriculum that required more funding.

Ultimately, both Rezmierski and Wadsworth agree that the positive results are due to a team effort.

"I think the survey points out part of the reason the district's results are so impressive. We have excellent teachers and administrators, and (a) high quality curriculum. Couple that with the parent involvement and community support we enjoy, and you have superb schools," said Wadsworth.

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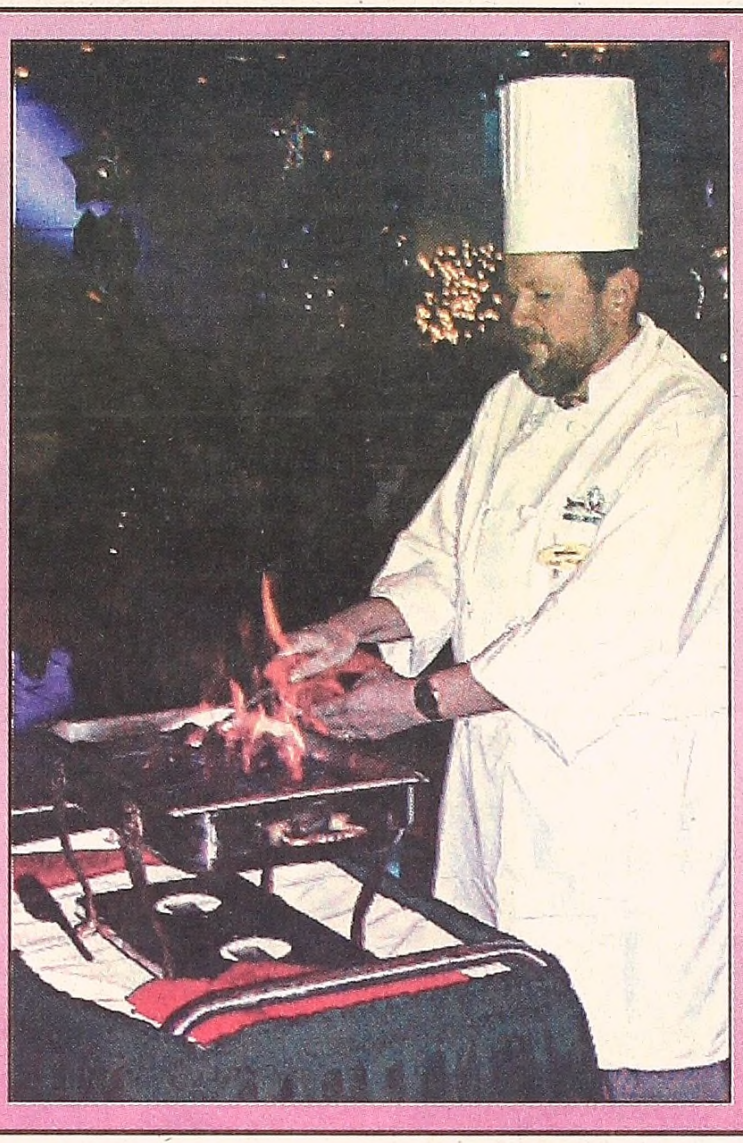
Having a ball

The 10th Annual Canton Chamber of Commerce Winter Ball was a rousing success this year as more than 650 guests enjoyed dinner, dancing and magic at Laurel Manor in Livonia last friday evening. At left, chef Wayne Madlo flames cherry topping for the cheesecake dessert while at right, Barb Yack demonstrates her talent at The Hustle. Part-time magician Mark Wolnowski, below, president of Premier Auto Auction, delighted guests with his amazing card tricks.



Noted speaker to appear at Belleville campus

What exactly does happen when we die?

RaNelle Wallace may have the answer to that age-old question which has plagued theologians and philosophers since the beginning of time.

Wallace knows because she has experienced death first hand. After a plane crash, she was declared dead and only reluctantly returned to life as we know it.

She has detailed her after-life experiences in her best selling book, *Burning Within*, in which she provides a first-hand account of her experiences on the "other side".

Wallace will speak at noon Feb. 5 at the western campus of Wayne County Community College District in the multi-purpose room. There is no charge for the event.

Wallace was in a single-engine place piloted by her then-husband in October of 1985 when the aircraft crashed into the side of a mountain in Utah. The couple barely escaped from the raging inferno and, despite their serious injuries, began a 5-mile walk down the mountain to find help, according to her account of the incident.

Ambulance workers declared her dead six hours later.

When she awoke in the morgue she began her long road to recovery with an entirely new perspective on her life and the purpose of mankind. The plane crash had taken her face, her identity and her career as a television reporter. But it had not taken her determination to make a difference in the world—rather she had found a purpose and a spiritual and psychic enlightenment, she said.

Her experience and her recovery from the serious disfigurement which has involved 37 surgeries to date, the effects on her family, her marriage and her relationships with friends, her church and even strangers have marked her as a person with exceptional insights into the human psyche, according to those who have experienced her talents first hand.

Her recovery required her to wear a mask for three years while facial skin grafts healed.

Wallace returned from her experience with many special insights and a talent that allows her to see beyond the everyday occurrences in most lives, according to a spokesperson.

She is now a noted public speaker who passionately discusses the human spirit, the inspiration which surrounds us all in our everyday lives and the real keys to success in personal and professional relationships.

For information or reservations for Wallace's talk, contact the college at (734) 699-7008. The campus is located at 9555 Haggerty Road in Belleville.

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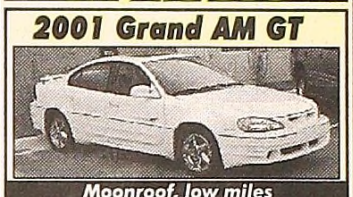

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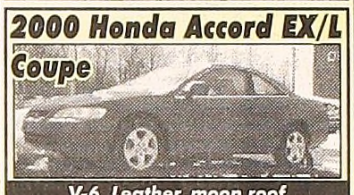

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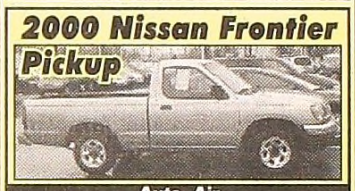

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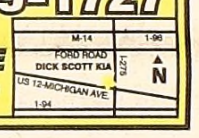

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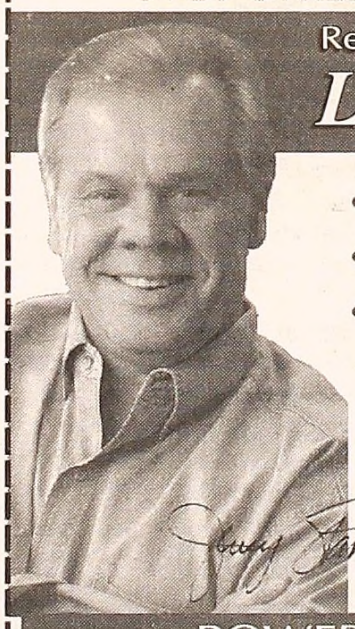

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Taking care of business

The new board of directors for the Canton Chamber of Commerce was sworn into office Jan. 7 at a luncheon meeting at the Summit on the Park. Father Jack Baker from St. Mary's of Wayne was the featured speaker during the meeting and the new officers were sworn in by 35th District Court Judge Michael Gerou. Board members Kris Rautio from Community Bank of Dearborn, far left, and Jim Demmer, of Demmer Ford in Wayne, thanked the chamber members and audience for their continued support and attendance.

Battle of the Bands opens Wayne Winterfest

Scott Spielman
Editor

The Wayne Community Center will be rocking tonight, when the annual Winterfest celebration gets under way with a Battle of the Bands competition.

Maria Mitter, program coordinator for the City of Wayne Youth Services, said the third annual event has proved a popular one for area teens.

"It's a great night," she said. "We've never had any problems with it. The kids love it."

There are four bands signed on for the show and another one possible, according to Mitter. Three of them: Common Misconception, Half Past Never and Forever the Way are all returnees to the competition. The fourth, Anaphora, is a newcomer.

"It's punk music," Mitter said. "We tried to get some other varieties."

Tickets for the event are $6 and available at the door. The proceeds of the Battle of the Bands competition go to raise money for programming for youths in Wayne, she said.

"We don't get a lot of money, but our main goal is to provide a place for the kids to hang out," Mitter said.

The youth have responded, too, she said. There are usually about 200 youngsters, along with their parents, rocking out in the community center.

"It's the biggest turnout of the Wayne Winterfest," she said.

'Wall of Courage' nominees sought

Scott Spielman
Editor

There's still time for interested residents to nominate someone for the inaugural wall of the Sandra Sagear Wall of Courage.

The wall, located in the new Plymouth High School, was designed to commemorate students that displayed courage, perseverance, spirit and creativity in succeeding, despite being afflicted by a mental, physical or emotional barrier when they were students, according to Debra Madonna, who is overseeing the effort.

That deadline, which had been extended to Jan. 15, is now Feb. 16, she said.

"It's not set in stone," she said. "We don't want it to be a competition."

> *We want to keep it manageable. If you get more than five in a year, you tend to lose focus.*

The wall is named after Sandra Sagear, a 1969 graduate of the original Plymouth High School, who was afflicted with polio.

"When she went to school, they didn't want her there," Madonna said. "They didn't accommodate her."

To be eligible, honorees must have graduated from the Plymouth-Canton School District. Students must have been graduates for five years before they're eligible, according to Madonna, but other than that, there is no limit or time frame to when the honorees graduates.

"We wanted to give an equal shot to people that graduated a long time ago," she said.

"We want to go back as far as the beginning of the district."

Another aspect of the program is a scholarship that is presented through the Plymouth Rotary A.M. club, she said.

She said the extended deadline comes as organizers of the effort want to be sure they get the right inaugural class of honorees. Right now, the committee isn't sure how many inductees to enshrine on the wall, she said. Ideally, there would be a new student or students honored every year.

"We want to keep it manageable," she said. "If you get more than five in a year, you tend to lose focus."

For applications, email Madonna at clarion@storytelldesign.com or download one from www.storytellerdesign.com/ SandaWallApplication.pdf>.

Clarification

Lianne Clair, recently wed to Judge David Parrott, is the chair of the Van Buren Township Public Safety Committee, not the vice-chair as printed last week in some editions of The Journal Newspapers.

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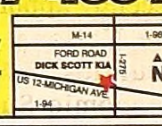

CITY OF PLYMOUTH PUBLIC NOTICE

PUBLIC HEARING ON PROPOSED USES OF 2004 COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT BLOCK GRANT FUNDS

Pursuant to Federal guidelines, the City of Plymouth is announcing its objectives and possible uses for developing projects using Year 2004 Federal Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) funding.

OBJECTIVES:

1. To provide benefits to senior citizens.
2. To provide benefits directly to persons of low/moderate income and/or areas in which at least 51 % of the residents are of low/moderate income.
3. To maintain a high level of performance in the management of all CDBG funded programs while offsetting administrative costs to the General Fund

PROPOSED YEAR 2004 PROJECTS:

The City anticipates receiving approximately $74,500 in CDBG funds for the year 2004, and has identified the following potential projects for use of these funds:

1.	Senior Programs:	
	a. Senior Citizen Van Drivers (2)	$53,000
	b. Senior Citizen Van Dispatcher	$ 5,000
	c. Senior Citizen Chore Service	$ 7,500
	d. Senior Sentinel Newsletter	$ 2,000
		$67,500
2.	Grant Administration	$ 7,000
		TOTAL $74,500

PUBLIC HEARING:

Citizens are invited to comment on the proposed projects listed above, and to suggest other projects. All projects must meet one of the Federal CDBG objectives. A public hearing for the purpose of receiving comments on the proposed uses of 2004 CDBG funds, and additional suggestions for use of said funds, will be held by the Plymouth City Commission on Tuesday, February 17, 2004 at 7.00 pm in the Commission Chambers at City Hall, 201 S. Main St.

Linda J. Langmesser, CMC
City Clerk

Publish: January 22, 2004

Face off

Former professionals face local champs on ice Saturday

Scott Spielman
Editor

When the Wayne Winterfest returns to town this week, there will be ample activities for everyone at the Wayne Community Center.

That means there will be a lot of great hockey at the ice arena, including the annual Jerry Ball, Jr. Memorial Hockey Game.

The event takes place at 8:30 p.m. on Saturday, where it will cap off the activities on the ice.

The event was founded five years ago to support Wayne Resident Jerry Ball, Jr, according to Connie Powers, a family friend who is helping to organize the event this year.

Jerry Ball played hockey out of the community center and was stricken with an inoperable brain tumor while he was still in his teens.

The first two games were organized to try to help fund his medical treatment and bills, which approached $100,000.

"The insurance company wouldn't pay for it," Powers said. "It was considered to be an experimental treatment."

The treatment essentially called for Ball to be his own bone marrow donor. He underwent the procedure, but it was unfortunately unsuccessful.

The focus of the event then became to provide scholarships for Wayne residents, she said.

"It's a very good cause," she said. "We'd love to get as many people out as possible."

In the past four years, 12 $1,000 scholarships have been distributed through the event.

> *It's a very good cause.*
> *We'd love to get as many people out as possible.*
>
> **Connie Powers**

The memorial game starts at 8:30 p.m. with a match up between the Ice Dogs Jr. Hockey team and the Cleveland Lumberjacks. There will also be a 50-50 raffle, a chuck a puck contest and a mini-mites exhibition game, Powers said.

Ashlee Areeda will sing the national anthem and Jeff Mitchell, a local man who played for the Dallas Stars National Hockey League team will drop the puck.

The cost of admission is a $5 donation at the door, but anyone involved in Wayne hockey can wear their jerseys and get in for free.

The scholarships are open to any graduating senior who played Wayne youth hockey or participated in the Wayne figure skating clubs, Powers said.

"All of our Wayne teens participate in the fund-raising part of it," she said. "They all get items for the silent auction."

Scholarships are awarded based on grades and other criteria like a written essay.

The event typically takes place earlier in the day, but Powers said she hopes the 8:30 start time wouldn't detract any potential attendees. She said the event has always been a crowd-pleaser.

"We have all kinds of things going on at the time," she said.

To subscribe to the
Journal Newspapers call 734-467-1900.

Local commissioner named to national economic success board

Molly Tippen
Staff Writer

Kay Beard

Wayne County Commissioner Kay Beard (District 12 – Inkster, Garden City and Westland) was recently appointed to serve on the National Association of Counties (NACo) Family Economic Success Advisory Committee.

The committee was recently formed to help counties develop job retention strategies, provide information on career advancement and the Earned Income Tax Credit, said NACo President Karen Miller. NACo was formed in 1935 to provide legal, legislative and public affairs assistance to county governments.

"Commissioner Beard has been a tireless advocate for working families and their children," she said. "Her continued work on this issue will be of great help to both these families and county officials all across the country."

Beard's involvement with NACo began in 1994 when she was elected chairperson of the organization employment steering committee and co-chair of the welfare reform task force. Three years later, she was elected to the NACo board of directors.

The NACo Family Success Advisory Committee is funded by a grant from the Annie E. Casey Foundation, a Baltimore, MD-based non-profit that provides programs for disadvantaged children and their families by advocating for public policy reforms that will economically and socially benefit at-risk families. Specifically, the Casey Foundation programs address teen pregnancy prevention, job training and cultural tolerance.

The foundation recently released a report that indicated that 5.6 million, or 21 percent, of children living in the United States are living below the poverty line.

Beard was appointed to the Wayne County Commission in 1978, and is currently the longest serving member of that body. She was elected to her 12th consecutive term in 2000. She has been involved in several committees and groups that address the need of low-income families, including the National Advisory Council for School-to-Work Opportunities (a joint committee created by the Department of Education and the Department of Labor), United Way Community Services, the Blue Cross/Blue Shield Senior Advisory Council and Hospices of Michigan.

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CALENDAR OF EVENTS

Daddy Daughter Dance planned

The Van Buren Township Parks and Recreation Department will host a Daddy/Daughter Dance on Friday Feb. 13 and Sat. Feb 14. The dances will take place from 7-9 p.m. at the Van Buren Township Hall. Tickets are available in advance at the Community Services Desk.

Super 70s event set

Belleville High School Auditorium will host a Super 70s Spectacular at 7:30 p.m. on Feb. 13. The event features performances by Bay City Rollers, starring Ian Mitchell, Maxine Nightingale, Gallery, Tony DeFranco and John Ford Coley of England Dan and John Ford Coley. Tickets are $25 for more information call (734) 697-7151.

Winterfest begins today

The annual Winterfest celebration begins today in the City of Wayne. The event gets under way with a Battle of the Bands competition at 6 p.m. at the Wayne Community Center, and continues throughout the weekend with events all day long. For more information call the Wayne Community Center at (734) 721-7400 or stop by anytime to pick up a brochure.

CHARTER TOWNSHIP OF VAN BUREN
REGULAR BOARD MEETING MINUTES
JANUARY 13, 2004

Supervisor King called the meeting to order at 7:30 p.m. in the Board Room. Present: Supervisor Cindy King, Clerk Joannie Payne, Treasurer Sharry Budd, Trustee Phillip Hart, Trustee John Herman, Trustee Jeffery Jahr and Trustee Walter Rochowiak. Absent and excused: None. Others in attendance: Planning and Economic Development Director Bryce Kelley, Interim Public Safety Director Allen Smolen, Recreation and Facilities Director Bruce Ross, Water and Sewer Director Patti Duha, Planning and Zoning Administrator Steven Puglsey, Executive Assistant Susan Ireland, Secretary Kathleen Cline and an audience of four (4).

APPROVAL OF AGENDA: Budd moved, Hart seconded to approve the agenda as presented. Carried.

PUBLIC HEARING: Jahr moved, Rochowiak seconded to open the public hearing for the 2004-2005 proposed Community Block Grant program. Carried.

Supervisor King opened the public hearing and went to Planning and Zoning Administrator Pugsley for an explanation. Administrator Pugsley stated this is the first of two public hearings regarding the Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) program. The estimated funding level for the 2004 – 2005 fiscal year is $153,000. Administrator Pugsley stated we are seeking comments from the public for potential projects that would meet the CDBG funding guidelines. The three national objectives for projects are: to benefit low/moderate income persons, prevent or eliminate slum and/or blight and to meet urgent community needs. Residents are encouraged to submit ideas for possible projects to the Department of Developmental Services through Administrator Pugsley at 734.699.8913, in writing or via Van Buren Township's website at www.spuglsey@vanburen-mi.org. The Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) objectives of the CDBG program are for the development of viable communities by providing decent housing and a suitable living environment and expanding economic opportunities. The following are proposed projects that have been submitted thus far: Youth Services for "Takin' It to the Streets" and Campers for Day, Tween and Teen Camps for low income families; Senior Services for a shade system in the Senior Activity Garden and partial funding for Senior Services Administrator; Neighborhood Improvements of ash tree, sewer, and sidewalk replacement and improvements to Van Buren Estates Park; partial funding for Code Enforcement Officer, Planning for updating the Parks and Recreation Master Plan; and Administration for General Administration costs.

Supervisor King stated past projects have included Services for Seniors; Services for low income youth for recreational programs; assist low/moderate income families with home repairs; demolition of abandoned buildings, blight removal, and the purchase of playground equipment for township parks. Supervisor King further stated after the second public hearing to be held on Tuesday, February 3, 2004 the Board will be ask to adopt a project plan.

Trustee Hart asked Director Ross what the improvements were for at Van Buren Estates Park? Director Ross stated to make the playground equipment (ADA) Americans with Disability Act compliant.

A resident asked if the sidewalk replacement was the complete cost? Administrator Pugsley stated the specifics details have not been determined yet, and if this project becomes a part of the project plan it may be partially funded for low/moderate income eligible families and would also be ADA compliant. Supervisor King stated the projects listed are only proposals and all projects may not make the final project plan due to the amount of available funding.

Trustee Herman stated only eligible low/moderate income families would qualify for the replacement programs.

There being no further discussion, a motion was made to close the public hearing. Herman moved, Payne seconded to close the public hearing. Carried.

MINUTES: Rochowiak moved, Hart seconded to approve the Work Study Session Minutes of December 15, 2003 as presented. Carried.

Hart moved, Budd seconded to approve the Regular Board Meeting Minutes of December 16, 2003 as presented. Carried.

CORRESPONDENCE: On Tuesday, January 20, 2004 a Special Meeting of the Downtown Development Authority (DDA) for the purpose of Architectural Firm qualifications presentation for Fire Facilities at 5:00 p.m. in the Otisville/Sheldon Room in Van Buren Township Hall.

Supervisor King read a Resolution from the Wayne County Board of Commissioners in regards to the Brooks Drain Assessment. This Resolution would set aside the 2003 Brooks Drain Assessment so the Special Assessment can be reapportioned and spread over a period of time greater than one year.

On Tuesday, January 20, 2004 the Wayne County Department of Environment will hold a public informational meeting regarding the Brooks Drain Assessment at 5:00 p.m. in the Sumpter Township Hall Board Meeting Room.

Supervisor King stated House Bill 5168 was signed into law on December 30, 2003 with an immediate effective date, which reinstates the May 1st deadline for filing a principal residence exemption form with the Assessors Office [this form was formally known as the Homestead Property Affidavit form].

An email thanking the Van Buren Township Fire Department from a resident for their assistance given during a recent medical emergency.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS: None.

NEW BUSINESS: Hart moved, Jahr seconded to approve the reappointments of Donna Hall and Allen Sacco to the Board of Canvassers with terms to expire December 31, 2007. Carried.

Payne moved, Herman seconded to adopt Resolution 2004-01 the Poverty Exemption Guidelines for Van Buren Township 2004 Board of Review. Carried.

Payne moved, Hart seconded to adopt Resolution 2004-02 the intent to comply with the terms and conditions of the (Michigan Department of Environmental Quality) MDEQ Administrative Consent Order regarding the construction of the Flow Equalization Basin at the South Huron Valley Utility Wastewater Treatment Plant and noting the reduction in the penalty amount to be no more than $25,000. Carried.

Rochowiak moved, Hart seconded to adopt Resolution 2004-03 the Wade-Trim Billing Rate Schedule Number 2004A effective January 1, 2004. Carried.

Jahr moved, Hart seconded to adopt Resolution 2004-04 the Annual Road Closure Permit. Carried.

Budd moved, Rochowiak seconded to adopt Resolution 2004-05 the Michigan Department of Transportation (MDOT) Annual Permit for work on state highways. Carried.

Hart moved, Rochowiak seconded to approve the Ecorse Road Sanitary Sewer from Haggerty to Jeremy Construction Contract Change Order Number 1 and Change Order Number 2. Carried.

Rochowiak moved, Herman seconded to adopt Resolution 2004-06 the Speculative Building Designation. Carried.
VOUCHER LIST: Payne moved, Hart seconded to approve the January 13, 2004 voucher list as amended. Carried.

REPORTS: Supervisor King ordered the November 2003 Budgetary Report and the December 2003 Public Safety Report received and filed.

ANNOUNCEMENTS: On Tuesday, January 20, 2004 a Special Meeting of the Downtown Development Authority (DDA) for the purpose of Architectural Firm qualifications presentation for Fire Facilities at 5:00 p.m. in the Otisville/Sheldon Room in Van Buren Township Hall.

On Tuesday, January 20, 2004 the Wayne County Department of Environment will hold a public informational meeting regarding the Brooks Drain Assessment at 5:00 p.m. in the Sumpter Township Hall Board Meeting Room.

Township Administrative offices will be closed on Monday, January 19th in observance of Martin Luther King, Jr. Day.

The next regular Board of Trustees Meeting will be held on February 3, 2004.

The Recreation Department announced the following events: The 9th Annual Daddy Daughter Dance will be held on Friday, February 13th and Saturday, February 14th from 7:00 p.m. until 9:00 p.m.; a Boater Safety class on Saturday, February 28th from 9:00 a.m. until 3:00 p.m.; and an American Red Cross Babysitter Certification Class on Saturday, March 13th from 9:00 a.m. until 3:00 p.m. Summer Camp program registration will begin on Monday, March 1st. For further information on classes and programs contact the Recreation Department at 734.699.8921.

AUDIENCE (Non-Agenda Items): A resident expressed developmental and environmental concerns regarding the possible new development in his neighborhood. Supervisor King stated Environmental Director Swallow has had communication with MDEQ and the Township will be sending letters to the landowner, the potential developer, the EPA and the MDEQ of the recent activities and permits that are required.

A resident inquired if the Township had any news from Visteon in regard to a lighted street limit signs being placed by Tyler Elementary School? Supervisor King stated Visteon was awaiting communication from Tyler Elementary PTO.

CLOSED SESSION: None.

ADJOURNMENT: Hart moved, Payne seconded to adjourn at 8:39 p.m. Carried.

Joannie D. Payne, CMC
Township Clerk

Publish: January 22, 2004

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Romulus, MI 48174
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Sports

Winners

The Northville Mustangs defeated the John Glen Rockets, 68-55, last Friday night in Northville. Senior guard Mark Sorenson scored 20 for Northville and junior forward Barry Eberhardt scored 22 for John Glenn. The Mustangs will play Livonia Franklin at home Friday night and the Rockets will face Walled Lake Northern on the road.

Whalers overcome Rangers, 4-3

Jeff Novak
Staff Writer

There is a lot of bad blood between the Plymouth Whalers and last year's OHL Champions the Kitchener Rangers and it showed Saturday night when the Whalers literally fought their way from a three-point deficit to a 4-3 victory.

Ryan Ramsay led Plymouth with two goals and two assists. Captain James Wisniewski had a goal and three assists in the come-from-behind win.

The two teams tallied 92 penalty minutes in their first meeting since the Whalers' season opener on Sept. 19.

The first period was the calm before the storm – only six penalty minutes were recorded. Kitchener's Adam Keefe scored the lone goal of the period.

Things heated up in the second when the Rangers scored two more goals in the first six minutes to take a 3-0 lead. David Clarkston, with an assist from Craig Voakes, put Kitchener up 2-0 at 1:56 into the period and Petr Kanko added the third goal four minutes later to make it 3-0 with a lot of game to go. Thomas Harrison recorded the assist.

After the two goals by Kitchener, 72 total penalty minutes were racked up in the second period between the teams. Roughing, fighting and unsportsmanlike conduct was the name of the game in the period. The physical game was enough to rattle the Rangers and allow the Whalers to score three unanswered goals.

Ramsay put Plymouth on the board with an even-strength goal at 10:26 with assists going to newcomer Rane Carnegie and Wisniewski.

Wisniewski, of Canton, scored on a power play to move the Whalers within one at 16:05 with Kitchener's Voakes in the box for obstruction hooking. Ramsay and Dan Collins notched the assists.

Ramsay scored his second goal of the night, twentieth of the season to knot the game 3-3. Carnegie and Wisniewski earned the assists on the tying goal.

Things simmered down in the third period, but Plymouth's John Vigilante took advantage of the power play to score his nineteenth goal of the season and put the game away, 4-3, for the home team. Ramsay and Wisniewski recorded the assists on the game-winning goal. Despite the three early goals, Plymouth goalie Paul Drew had a solid game, he steered away 21 other shots to help his team stay in the game.

The Whalers will face off against the Rangers again on Saturday, Feb. 21 at the Compuware Sports Arena in Plymouth.

Whalers 8, Ice Dogs 2

Mississauga was no match for the Whalers on Friday night when Plymouth collared the Ice Dogs, 8-2. John Mitchell led the team in points with one goal and five assists. Ramsay scored a goal and recorded three assists and Vigilante also had a solid game with two goals and an assist.

It didn't take long for Plymouth to pace the game in their favor – Mitchell scored the first goal just 58 seconds into the game. Mississauga's top scorer Patrick O'Sullivan scored his 31st goal of the season to tie the game, 1-1. Nick Van Herpt recorded the lone assist on the play. Ramsay put the Whalers back on top, 2-1, with a goal at 17:46 in the period.

The second period was all Whalers all the time as they scored four goals. The first three scores were off of power plays. Vigilante scored two of them within 22 seconds of each other and Pisellini added the third at 13:21. Wisniewski made it a 6-1 game with an even-strength score with four minutes to play in the second period. Ramsay, Carnegie, Mitchell and

See **Whalers,** page 16

Double whammy
Mustangs top Chiefs for second time this season

Jeff Novak
Staff Writer

The Canton Chiefs and the Northville Mustangs met on the ice for the second time this season and for the second time, the Mustangs triumphed.

In their first meeting Northville prevailed 5-1. The score from this past Saturday's meeting wasn't much different at 5-2. Both teams' coached conceded that it was a much tougher game though.

"They played a lot better than the first time we met," said Northville coach Brad O'Neill. "The score was a lot tighter and they did some other things a lot better and created some two-on-one plays."

Canton's coach Jim Wheaton said that they would have to adjust to Northville's speed after their first meeting and felt they made the needed adjustments on Saturday.

"They're a real good team," he said. "We made all of the corrections we could and played pretty good for two periods but it takes all three to win. Northville played a great game."

Northville's Joe Vitale notched the first goal of the night unassisted to give the Mustangs the early, 1-0, lead. Canton bounced back with a power-play goal by Nick Leadford with two minutes left in the first period to tie, 1-1. Pat Davison and Ben Laurin earned the assists on the play.

The game opened up for Northville in the second period where they scored three goals to take a 4-2 lead.

Jake Vitale put the 'Stangs back on top, 2-1, with a score at 12:52. Assists went to Troy Engelland and Nick Reuter. The Chiefs hung in there and tied the score again, 2-2, with a goal by Mike Stewart and Davison recorded his second assist of the night on the play. Newcomer John Sudia notched the other assist.

Sudia joined Canton from a travel league and will help fill the place for Mike French, who is out the rest of the season with a broken wrist.

Donny McKinnon, with an assist by Mike Monticciolo, gave Northville the lead again, 3-2, at 8:24 in the second period. Jake Vitale extended the lead to 4-2 to finish out the period.

Engelland scored in the fourth to put the game away at 5-2. He finished the game with two points off of a goal and an assist. Joe Vitale assisted on the final goal to give him two points for the night with one goal and one assist.

Jim Gates had a solid performance in net for Northville – he turned away 18-20 shots and made some timely, point-blank shots to help them secure the win, according to O'Neill.

"It was important that we come out and win division games," he said. "We have to play a tough Churchill team and I think that we have the best shot to beat them. We can't have any slip ups."

Northville rests at a 10-4 overall record. They are 9-1 in league play and 4-0 in divisional play. Their one loss in league play was to Churchill in mid-December.

The Mustangs and the Chargers had their rematch last night but the results weren't available for this publication. They will match up against Walled Lake Central on Saturday night at the Novi Ice Arena.

Canton's second game of the week was canceled last Wednesday due to inclement weather and will be rescheduled.

"We're progressing," Wheaton said after the Northville game. "We just need to tighten up on some little things and get some wins."

The Northville game started an eight-game road trip for the Chiefs. They played Salem Tuesday night and will head to Redford Union tonight. Then they will still have to face Churchill, Walled Lake Central, Wyandotte Roosevelt, Franklin and Walled Lake Northern.

Canton hoopsters defeat Central, 65-43, fall to Pioneer, 58-51

Jeff Novak
Staff Writer

The Canton Chiefs varsity basketball team plowed past Walled Lake Central with a 65-43 victory Friday night.

"It went well," said Canton coach Charlie Paye. "We played the best all-around game of the year on offense and defense. We played man-to-man and knew who we had to cover and we held them."

Central's Justin Goltz got away from Canton's defense and scored 13 points in the first half but the Chiefs picked it up in the second half to hold him scoreless. They held the entire Central team to just five points in the third quarter. The strong defense allowed the Chiefs to score 26 points and take a commanding lead going into the final quarter of play.

"It was probably the best quarter of defense we've played all year," said Paye. "We caused some turnovers and were able to score."

D.J. Bridges led Canton's side of the court with 20 points followed by Andy Cortellini with 13 points. Kevin Thornton reached double digits with 11 points and Julian Smith nailed 10 for the Chiefs.

Canton didn't have it as easy when they played a tough Ann Arbor Pioneer team last Tuesday. A fourth-quarter rally led Pioneer to a 58-51 victory.

The Chiefs kept it close throughout the game. They were only down by two points at the half and led by three points after three periods, 35-38. Pioneer overcame the three-point deficit and outscored the Chiefs 23-13 in the final quarter of play and walked away with the 58-51 win.

"They were probably the best team that we've played this year," Paye said.

"With about four minutes left to play in the game they took control. It wasn't anything we did – we played well and they just made some shots and some free throws – they went 7-8 from the line.

"They have good size and quickness and ran presses a couple of different ways," he added. "We just didn't get it done at the end."

Bridges led the team again with 20 points and Cortellini added nine in the tough bout.

Canton hit the hardwood against the Walled Lake Western Warriors on Tuesday but the results of the game weren't available for publication.

The Chiefs will play a struggling Churchill team tomorrow night in Livonia.

EXTRA!!
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City of Romulus

NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING and PROPOSED STATEMENT OF OBJECTIVES & PROPOSED USE OF FUNDS

A public hearing is scheduled for TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 3, 2004, at 6:00 p.m. in the City Council Chambers of the Municipal Building, 11111 Wayne Road, Romulus, MI 48174, for the purpose of:

RECEIVING COMMENTS OR SUGGESTIONS REGARDING THE 2004/2005 COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT BLOCK GRANT (CDBG) PROGRAM. THE CITY OF ROMULUS EXPECTS TO RECEIVE AN ESTIMATED $275,000. IN FY2004. THE CITY ANTICIPATES ENTERING INTO A 10-YEAR PRECOMMITMENT OF CDBG FUNDS WITH WAYNE COUNTY AND H.U.D. IN ORDER TO FUND THE EXPANSION AND RENOVATION OF THE ROMULUS SENIOR CENTER. THE ESTIMATED $1.5MIL BONDED IMPROVEMENTS WILL BE PAID WITH AN ESTIMATED $189,000. OF THE ANNUAL ALLOCATION THROUGH THE YEAR 2014.

WE ARE ALSO RECEIVING COMMENTS ON WAYNE COUNTY'S AMENDMENT OF THE ANNUAL ACTION PLAN TO INCLUDE THE ABOVE REFERENCED ACTIVITY FOR THE NEXT 10 YEARS.

2004 PROPOSED PROJECTS:

ACTIVITY/Location:	**FUNDING REQUEST:**
Senior Services - *Citywide* 36515 Bibbins Chore/minor home repair services, Transportation, education, Recreation & staffing	$ 35,000.00
Senior Center Expansion/Renovation 36515 Bibbins, Romulus, MI 348174 $1.5 mil Bonded improvements - CDBG funds anticipated to repay bond over a 10 year pre-commitment period. (with an estimated reduced allocation of 5%annually)	$212,500.00
Administration (10%) -	**$ 27,500.00**
TOTAL REQUEST:	$275,000.00

ALSO INCLUDED:
RECEIVING COMMENTS OR SUGGESTIONS REGARDING THE REPROGRAMMING OF FUNDS IN THE AMOUNT OF $165,500.00 TO BEGIN THE NECESSARY IMPROVEMENTS TO OUR SENIOR CENTER. DUE TO THE REMAPPING OF THE CITY DURING THE 2000 CENSUS THE AREAS OF THE CITY ORIGINALLY INTENDED FOR THESE PROJECTS NO LONGER QUALIFY AS LOW/MODERATE INCOME AREAS. THE FOLLOWING ARE THE FUNDS INTENDED FOR RE-PROGRAMMING:

War Co. Contract# 01-24-03L - New Const. - sidewalks (Census Tract 5859 Block group 2 - Extended to 12/31/04)	$83,300.00
Wa. Co. Contract# 03-24-03F - Rec. Facility - Satterlee Farm Park (Census Tract 5858 Block group 3)	$82,200.00
Total	**$165,500.00**

IN ADDITION, THE CITY ANTICIPATES RECEIVING AT LEAST $50,000.00 FOR HOUSING REHABILITATION THROUGH REPAYMENT OF LIENS/ REVOLVING FUNDS (PROGRAM INCOME) AND WILL NOT BE APPLYING FOR ADDITIONAL HOUSING REHABILITATION FUNDS.

Pursuant to Federal Guidelines, the City of Romulus is announcing its objectives and proposed uses for developing projects utilizing Wayne County, Federal Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) funding. The primary objectives are to assist low to moderate income families directly or provide benefits in areas where 51% of the residents are low to moderate income, such as replacing the urban infrastructure of streets, improve recreational facilities and programs and assist in meeting special needs of the elderly and physically disabled.

Interested persons are invited to comment on the proposed projects listed above or suggest other projects. All Projects must benefit low to moderate income residents.

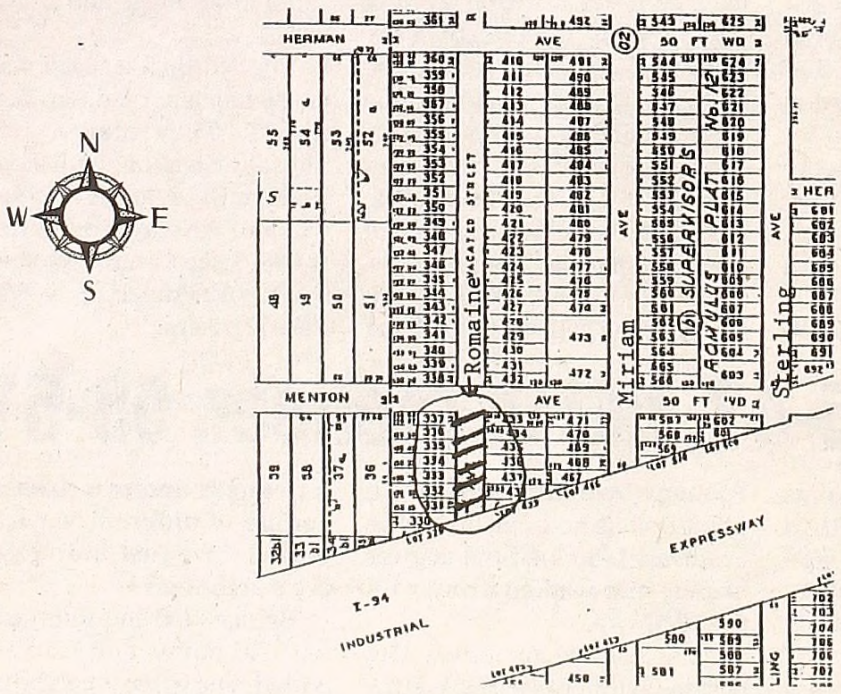
Please write or telephone the City of Romulus, *Community Development Department, 11111 Wayne Road, Romulus, Michigan 48174, (734) 942-7545 with your comments.*

Publish: January 22, 2004

NOTICE
CITY OF ROMULUS
STREET & ALLEY VACATION

Notice is hereby given, that the City Council of the City of Romulus, has scheduled a Public Hearing to be held in the Romulus City Hall Council Chambers, 11111 Wayne Road, Romulus, Michigan 48174 on Monday, February 23, 2004 at 7:00 p.m. for the purpose of taking testimony on the proposed vacation of Romaine between Menton and I-94 Expressway as follows:

Vacate the section of Romaine located between Menton Street and I-94 Expressway.



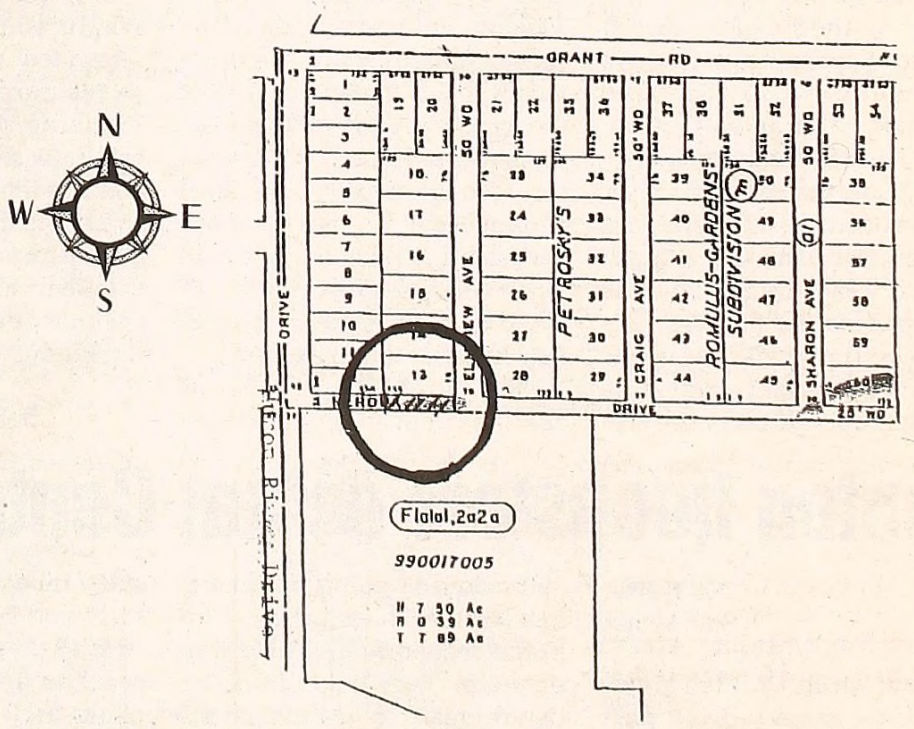
Written comments may be submitted to the attention of Linda R. Choate, CMC, City Clerk, 11111 Wayne Road, Romulus, Michigan 48174-1485, no later than 12:00 o'clock noon, Monday, February 23, 2003.

Linda R. Choate, CMC, Clerk
City of Romulus, Michigan

Publish: January 22, 2004
January 29, 2004

NOTICE
CITY OF ROMULUS
STREET & ALLEY VACATION

Notice is hereby given, that the City Council of the City of Romulus, has scheduled a Public Hearing to be held in the Romulus City Hall Council Chambers, 11111 Wayne Road, Romulus, Michigan 48174 on Monday, February 23, 2004 at 715 p.m. for the purpose of taking testimony on the proposed vacation of the part of Heroux Street abutting Lot 13, Petroskys Romulus Gardens Subdivision as follows:



Vacation of Heroux Street, Le. that portion of Heroux Street abutting Lot 13
Written comments may be submitted to the attention of Linda R. Choate, CMC, City Clerk, 11111 Wayne Road, Romulus, Michigan 48174-1485, no later than 12:00 o'clock noon, Monday, February 23, 2004.

Linda R. Choate, CMC, Clerk
City of Romulus, Michigan

Publish: January 22, 2004
January 29, 2004

Belleville Tigers 'brave' past Ypsilanti in 69-54 win

Jeff Novak
Staff Writer

The Ypsilanti Braves weren't courageous enough to overcome the Tigers on the hardwood last Tuesday as Belleville defeated them, 69-54.

Tyler Jones led the Tigers with 25 points and 4 assists in the victory. Matt Miller followed with 18 points and 4 assists. Andre Olden added seven and Jason Samarco put in six for the team.

The game started out slow with Ypsilanti outscoring Belleville 8-2 in the first four minutes of play, but the Tigers got things going offensively to end the first quarter with a 16-11 lead. They shot the ball well, hitting 19-32 two-pointers and they were 4-9 for the three-point range, according to Belleville coach Mike Krogel. They also got their transition game going and created some easy scoring opportunities, he said.

The Tigers continued to outscore the Braves in the second quarter, 19-10, to take a 35-21 lead at the half. The lead was extended to 53-33 by the end of the third period before Ypsilanti outscored them in the fourth 21-16 to end the game 69-54.

"We had some concerns coming into the game," Krogel said. "We had lost on Tuesday and they were coming off of two wins. We played solid defense for the first three quarters but the fourth was a foul fest and a little sloppy. But, for the most part did well on defense and executed well on offense. It was an important game to get in the win column."

A game they wish they had chalked up in the win column was the nail-biter against Novi last Tuesday. The Tigers started out slow again but hung around long enough to take the game into double overtime, but lost 50-49 in the end.

Miller posted 13 points to lead the team and Olden and Jones each scored 11 points in the close game.

Belleville found themselves down 12-3 after the first four minutes but managed to turn things around and take a 19-18 lead at the end of the first.

They shot ahead to a 27-20 lead with four minutes left in the half but hit a dry spell and allowed Novi to come within one, 27-26. Jones nailed a basket to put the Tigers up by three at the halfway point, Kogel said.

Belleville hit another scoring skid in the third and the Wildcats took a 37-35 lead to end the third quarter. The fourth quarter wasn't much better, but Belleville was able to knot the game at 42 to send it to overtime.

"We went through some dry spells," Kogel said. "There were a lot of missed opportunities by both teams in the fourth."

The game remained tied after the first overtime. Both teams only scored two points to head into the second extra period. Belleveille took a four-point lead in the second overtime with 1:30 left to play and Novi caught up to within one with 40 seconds left to play. Jones hit 1-2 from the free throw line to go up 49-47 with 25 seconds on the clock but Novi's Trevor Hoover nailed a three-pointer to make it a 50-49 game.

"It was a nail-biter," Kogel said. "The kids played well; we just missed some shots when we needed them. Novi had a good game plan and executed it well. We have to avoid those dry spells."

Belleville faces a Romulus powerhouse Friday night.

Rocks place 5th at Hartland Invitational gymnastics meet

Jeff Novak
Staff Writer

The Salem Rocks vaulted to a fifth place finish at the Hartland Invitational gymnastics meet with a score of 138.75 on Saturday.

Ashley Aquinto was the Rock's standout gymnast with a first place in the Division II all-around (35.8). She tied for first in the vault competition with a solid 8.9 and took second in the floor routine with a high 9.35. She also placed fourth on the uneven bars to help boost her into the top spot.

Elena Gueroguiev was another Division II competitor that faired well at the meet with a in seventh place in the all-around with a 34.6. She won the uneven bars event with a 9.3 and took seventh in the vault to place in the final tallies.

Katie Waldeck balanced her way to a fifth place on the beam in Division II competition.

In Division I, Sarah Bugosh placed fifth on bars and tenth on the vault to solidify a seventh place in the division all-around with a total score of 34.8.

So far, the Rocks have improved every week at every meet, which was one of their main objectives this year, according to Salem coach Dana Driscoll.

"We had our best scores but still made some mistakes," she said.

"I'm happy that the scores are continuing to improve. The girls are working hard and they know they have things to work on – they're not satisfied with themselves yet and that's good to know."

Salem had a dual meet scheduled for last Wednesday with the Mustangs in Northville but it was cancelled do to inclement weather and will be rescheduled.

They also took on Brighton on Monday but the results were unavailable for this edition and they will participate in the Farmington Invitational meet on Saturday.

MINUTES OF THE REGULAR MEETING OF THE ROMULUS CITY COUNCIL
HELD JANUARY 5, 2004 IN THE COUNCIL CHAMBER ROMULUS CITY HALL, 11111 S. WAYNE ROAD, ROMULUS, MICHIGAN 48174.

The meeting was called to order at 7:30 p.m. by Chairman Pro Tem Debbie Romak.

Present: LeRoy Burcroff, William A. Crova,, Charles Miller, Michael Prybyla, Debbie Romak,William Wadsworth.
Absent: None.
Excused: Randolph Gear
Administrative Officials in Attendance:
Alan Lambert, Mayor
Linda R. Choate, CMC, Clerk
Pamela Morrison/Kersey, CMFA, Treasurer

1. Motion by Burcroff, supported by Crova to approve the agenda as amended.

Roll Call Vote Showing: Ayes - Burcroff, Crova, Miller, Prybyla, Romak, Wadsworth. Nays - None. Motion Carried Unanimously.

04-001

2. Motion by Wadsworth, supported by Burcroff to approve the minutes of the regular meeting of the Romulus City Council held December 22, 2003.

Roll Call Vote Showing: Ayes - Burcroff, Crova, Prybyla, Miller, Romak, Wadsworth. Nays -None. Motion Carried Unanimously.

3A. Presentation by Growth Works-Western Wayne County Care Organization.

04-002

3B. Motion by Crova, supported by Burcroff to adopt a resolution proposed by the Michigan Department of Environment Quality (M.D.E.Q.), entered into by the South Huron Valley Utility Authority (SHVUA), in accordance with the terms of the Administrative Consent Order.

Roll Call Vote Showing: Ayes - Burcroff, Crova, Prybyla, Miller, Romak, Wadsworth. Nays - None. Motion Carried Unanimously.

3C. Item Deleted at Petitioners request.*

04-003

4A1. Motion by Prybyla, supported by Wadsworth to adopt a memorial resolution for the family of Alice M. Ruffolo.

Roll Call Vote Showing: Ayes - Burcroff, Crova, Prybyla, Miller, Romak, Wadsworth. Nays - None. Motion Carried Unanimously.

4. Motion by Burcroff, supported by Miller to accept the Chairman's Report.

Roll Call Vote Showing: Ayes - Burcroff, Crova, Miller, Prybyla, Romak, Wadsworth. Nays - None. Motion Carried Unanimously.

5. No Report.

04-004

6A1. Motion by Wadsworth, supported by Burcroff to authorized the elected officials to attend the National League of Cities Conference to be held in Washington, D.C., March 5-9, 2004.

Roll Call Vote Showing: Ayes-Burcroff, Crova, Miller, Prybyla, Romak, Wadsworth. Nays - None. Motion Carried Unanimously.

6A2. No Action Taken. Informational item only.

04-005

6A3. Motion by Wadsworth, supported by Burcroff to appoint to the Board of Review, Edward Thomas, term expiring December 31, 2005 and to re-appoint David Paul, with term expiring December 31, 2006.

Roll Call Vote Showing: Ayes - Burcroff, Crova, Miller, Prybyla, Romak, Wadsworth. Nays - None. Motion Carried Unanimously.

04-006

7A1. Motion by Miller, supported by Prybyla to adopt the resolution presented on January 5, 2004 by Lome Kumer, Magna Entertainment Corporation.

04-007

7A2. Motion by Prybyla, supported by Wadsworth to table resolution 04-006 until reviewed by Corporate Counsel.

Roll Call Vote Showing: Ayes - Burcroff, Crova, Prybyla, Wadsworth. Nays - Miller, Romak. Motion Carried.

12. Motion by Miller, supported by Crova to adjourn the regular meeting of the Romulus City Council.

Roll Call Vote Showing: Ayes - Burcroff, Crova, Gear, Miller, Prybyla, Romak, Wadsworth. Nays - None. Motion Carried Unanimously.

Respectfully submitted,

Linda R. Choate, CMC, Clerk
City of Romulus, Michigan

Publish: January 22, 2004

Eagles place 3rd at Wayne volleyball invite, beat Melvindale

Jeff Novak
Staff Writer

The Romulus volleyball team had a busy week last week as they battled against Annapolis, Melvindale and participated in the Wayne Invitational.

Most recently, the Eagles took third place overall in the Wayne tournament. There, they lost their first two matches against John Glenn, 20-25, 19-25. They turned things around in the second round and beat Clawson, 25-13, 25-20. They split games against Annapolis with a 25-23 win and a 25-12 loss and in the final round of pool-play they split games against Garden City with a 25-17 win and a 25-14 loss.

After playing matches earlier in the week the Eagles ran out of gas in the final rounds, according to Romulus coach Rick Coate.

Romulus lost both games against John Glenn, 25-12, 25-16, but ended up in third place overall.

Earlier in the week the Eagles won a tough battle with the Melvindale Cardinals. They won the first game 15-12, lost the second, 13-15, and won the final, 18-15.

"We were finally able to close," Coate said. "That's where we've been lacking all year – we were able to get the job done."

Sabrina Hool had 20 assists and five digs in the victory. Both Lauren Block and Carla Broom had seven kills on the day.

Romulus wasn't as successful against the Dearborn Heights Annapolis Cougars last Monday night. The Eagles lost the first game, 8-15, won the second, 15-13, but fell in the third, 6-15.

"It's tough to play in their gym," Coate said. "They have a low ceiling and a small court. It's definitely home-court advantage for them."

Block had seven kills and seven digs to lead the team and Hool set up 17 assists in the loss. The rest was a team effort, said Coate.

"The team played well," he said. "They're growing as a team every time that we play."

The Eagle's busy schedule continues as they take on Thurston and Carlson this week and host their Mid Winter Tournament on Saturday.

"We hope to competitive against anyone we play," Coate said.

"The Mega Blue division is very equal but we continue to get better and are winning more games and I hope that leads to a successful season."

Romulus wrestlers soar past Gabrielle Richard, 45-36

The Romulus Eagle varsity wrestling team hit the mats against Gabrielle Richard on Saturday and wrapped up a 45-36 win.

"We only lost three matches not including the three voids that we had and everybody who won got pins," said Romulus coach Jason Balcom.

Joe Lewis won in the 103-pound weight class; Robby Ray won at 112 pounds; Jeff Kelsey topped the 125-weight class; Tim Lewis triumphed at 130 pounds; Patrick Sutter prevailed in the 140-pound class; Matt Mortsfield took the 145- pound weight class; and Phillip Roscoe won the at 150 pounds. D'Andre Walker won a match due to void at 135 pounds.

It was a much different scenario at their previous meet against Wyandotte last Thursday where they only won two matches. Tim Lewis, at 130 pounds and Kelsey at Mortsfield were the only winners for the Eagles.

They did lose two matches because their wrestlers were hurt midway through.

Paris Kendrick, at 119 pounds, injured a knee and Kelsey, at 125, hurt his ankle.

He said that he is hopeful he can turn things around for the rest of the season but feels that injuries and voids will play a big part in the home stretch.

The Eagles give up six points at every meet already because of voids.

They don't have anyone that can wrestle at the 189, 152 and heavyweight divisions.

The Eagles will take on Monroe tonight at home and than they will participate in the Fenton Invitational on Saturday.

Whalers

FROM PAGE 13

Wisniewski all earned assists in the scoring rampage.

Carnegie added to the lead with power-play goal at 8:48 in the third period with assists going to Mike Letizia and Tim Sestito. Sean Thompson rounded out the scoring for Plymouth with a goal at 13:58 to put them up 8-1. Mitchell and Dan Collins had the assists on the final goal.

Despite the seven-point deficit, the Ice Dogs managed a late goal by Cody Bass to make it an 8-2. Drew had another solid performance with 33 saves on the night.

The Whalers will play back-to-back games against the London Knights – Friday night they will head to London and return home to face them again on Saturday night. They will hit the road to play interstate rivals the Saginaw Spirit on Sunday afternoon.

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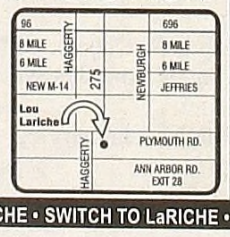

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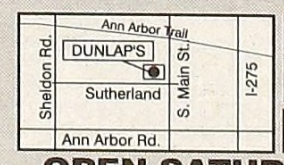

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1B7FN14X1JS712516
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1FTFE24HXNHA18893
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1HGEC4538HA083661
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1MEBP7839CG624966
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1G2WJ12M9RF234682
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1J4GZ58S6TC356599
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1FAPP6248PH120516
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2 Door - 03-13911
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1MEPM6046LH606612
2 Door - 03-13919
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J81RF2367L7536145
2 Door - 03-13997
1988 Mercury
3MABM1154JR641912
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1992 Pontiac Grand AM
1G2NE5436NC262592
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6MPCT01Z5M8613538
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1FMDU34X8MUC03470
03-14117
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1B3EJ56H8TN306336
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4 Door - 03-14266
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1FAPP10J2NW172761
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1G5EC16L7EF521796
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2C1MR2264S6764672
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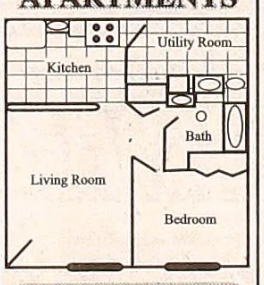

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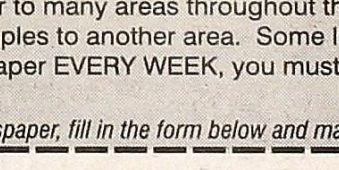

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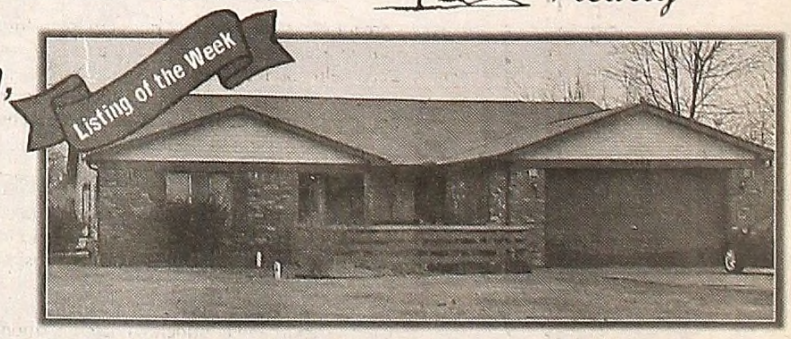

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